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New Platform Ready for a Vote in Denver

By Alicia Mattson

National convention delegates have a lot of work to do on the convention floor in Denver. Our party platform needs a significant amount of rebuild work.

It's an election year. What will voters find when they look at the two major parties and ask, "Isn't there a better option?"

If they read our current platform, they'll see an unbalanced and even strange selection of 15 topics covered in great detail. But they won't see coverage of current political topics on their mind; subjects that distinguish the Libertarian Party from the status quo such as: Social Security, education, health care, taxation, national defense, and international affairs.

That's because our current platform wasn't a planned document.

Like government, our platform grew over the years and became bloated with uninspiring negativity, long lists of everyone's pet issues, extremism that many Libertarians found to be unrealistic, promises that presented credibility problems and the kitchen sink.

Many of our Party's candidates complained that our platform made it impossible to custom tailor their campaigns by emphasizing a selected subset of incre-

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PRE-CONVENTION SPECIAL FEATURE: LP Presidential Candidates in Their Own Words



Top Row: Wayne Allyn Root, Daniel Imperato, Michael Jingoian, Mike Gravel, Steve Kubby; **Bottom Row:** Alden Link, George Phillies, Mary Ruwart, Christine Smith

All of the FEC-filed candidates for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination were posed a series of questions and given 1,500 words in which to respond. Their responses are printed verbatim, and have not been edited in any way except for formatting purposes. Liberty Decides '08 qualified candidates are listed first, followed by the other candidates' responses, which are listed in alphabetical order.

Question 1: What would you hope to accomplish as the Libertarian presidential nominee? Could you break the million-vote barrier?

Wayne Allyn Root: Republicans and Democrats use great marketing to sell America a lousy product. We Libertarians are trying to sell America a great product, but with lousy marketing.

No doubt, we Libertarians have had some wonderful presidential candidates over the years. Many were deep thinkers, scholarly types who provided thoughtful, intelligent answers to serious questions about the role of freedom and individual rights in society.

And few voters listened. So, if we select a nominee similar to ones we selected in the past, we should not be surprised if few

will listen again in 2008.

We may long for the days when folks would ponder and seriously debate the issues in the public square, but this is not the America we live in today. Today's American is influenced by media coverage. And the reason why the media does not cover our candidates is simple: because we don't provide the media with the two things they care about most: dynamic energy and entertainment. It's simple economics. Boring television means fewer eyeballs watching the screen; and fewer eyeballs watching the screen hurts the media's bottom line. If we are boring, we don't get coverage.

We need a candidate who understands Libertarianism and is able to present our ideas in a way that is both palatable and entertaining. As a political science graduate from Columbia Univer-

sity with over 20 years experience as a national television host, guest and producer, I believe I fit the part. As our party's nominee, I will expose our ideas to more media coverage than any previous candidate.

Already, pre-nomination, I've attracted extensive media as a Libertarian Party candidate: Fox News (multiple times), Fox Business (multiple times), MSNBC, CNBC, Bloomberg TV, WGN, Glenn Beck (3 to 4 million listeners), Michael Medved (3 to 4 million listeners), the nationally-syndicated Mancow Show, BBC, the biggest radio shows in Canada and UK, and hundreds of local stations from coast to coast. I am bringing the Libertarian message of smaller government, less spending, lower entitlements, lower taxes and more freedom

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THE MAILBOX

Paul's "Ballot Access" Bill Still Causing Discussion

The April *LP News* has a letter to the editor saying that the US Constitution does not permit Congress to pass a bill that outlaws restrictive ballot access laws for Congressional elections. However, the Constitution says in Article I, Section 4, "The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations, except as to the Places of chusing Senators."

Ron Paul introduced HR 3600 to outlaw restrictive ballot access laws for US House elections. Ron Paul would not have introduced this bill if he didn't believe it is constitutional.

Congress has used its Article I, Section 4 powers many times, including a federal law that tells the states to hold congressional elections in Nov. of even-numbered years; a federal law telling states with more than one member of the House to divide the state into US House districts; and a federal law telling the states that in federal elections, they must permit postcard registration and must permit provisional voting.

Richard Winger
San Francisco, CA

Editor's Note: Richard Winger is the editor-in-chief of Ballot Access News, a resource for ballot access updates and general ballot access information. Winger is regarded as one of top ballot access experts in the nation.

The Federal Government is Sometimes the Answer

Bert Loftman [April 2008] makes a good case for abandoning Ron Paul's efforts to provide ballot access relief through the Congress. But his case is not airtight. A practical argument notes that Congress will almost certainly weaken what Dr. Paul has proposed. But the Constitution is at least partially on his side, in spite of the 10th Amendment.

Article IV, Section 4 begins: "The United States shall guaran-

tee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government...." (capitals in original). It can be argued that a republican form of government is for the ultimate benefit of the citizens in that state, and therefore this provision might reasonably be interpreted to require that if a state government does not comply with the precepts of a republican form of government -- one of which includes access to the ballot, and therefore to the electorate, of every qualified candidate for public office -- then the federal government is empowered by this provision to step in and force the state to improve its ballot access.

We should all be suspicious of centralized government. But when the only recourse to an oppressive state government is the federal power, I suggest it might be reasonable to consider availing ourselves of this relief. Of course, whether or not we actually choose this route can depend on other factors.

Dan Karlan
Waldwick, NJ

Get Creative and Get Attention

New Hampshire LP Chairperson Brendan Kelly's letter-to-the-editor in your recent issue contained many good points. The Oregon LP, when I lead it with Tonie Nathan, did so many creative and clever things that we became more than just a major party in this state. First, since Henry David Thoreau, who was elected to Congress and considered himself a "libertarian," was popular in our state, we invited all the environmental groups that we could to have tables at our conventions and held our conventions at local colleges, where our student followers could help sponsor them.

Secondly, as an experiment, our state LP lowered the age to vote in its primaries to 16 years old.

Thirdly, we sponsored a successful state initiative creating Liberty Bell Day, since the Liberty Bell Party, out of Atlanta, GA, was historically one of the first "libertarian" political efforts. LP recognition expanded statewide and we got the unions, civic, student and religious groups, etc. to support our project.

Bruce Perry
Marina, CA

Guest Commentary: The Party of No Compromise

By Shep H. Greenberg

Editor's Note: The following guest commentary is an unsolicited submission and does not necessarily represent the viewpoints of the Libertarian National Committee, its staff, or the Libertarian Party as a whole.

The Manhattan Chapter of the Libertarian Party, of which I am a member, occasionally throws a phrase into its publications with which I heartily disagree: "New York City's No-Compromise, Pro-Freedom Political Party."

New York City? Yes! Pro-Freedom? Yes! Political Party? Yes! No-Compromise? Well, I think not!

To the mindless, on the surface, this sounds like a terrific phrase. No Compromise! Be true to thine self! Keep our philosophy, our principles, intact. THEY compromise; WE refuse to do so!

OK. Now let's look below the surface.

Involvement of the government in our lives constitutes a spectrum. It has endpoints. On one end is absolutely no government involvement whatsoever. There's a name for this; it's called Anarchy ("A", for short). On the other end we have the Government involved in anything it chooses to do; it's called Totalitarianism ("T", for short); Communism; Fascism.

Now, where are the most com-

mon in-between points? I suppose a Moderate is somewhere close to the middle on most issues. The Liberal/Democrat, leans towards the "A" side on civil liberties, the "T" side on economic/capitalism issues. Conversely, the Conservative/Republican, leans towards the "T" side on civil liberties, the "A" side on economic/Capitalism issues.

Now, where are we? Libertarians as a group lean towards the "A" side on many/most issues. We are not, however, anarchists; as we understand the important role that government plays in our lives. The most obvious example is the military, where we support the necessity of a force that stands ready to defend our country in the case of an invasion. Coming close, although some Libertarians might argue the points, are interstate highways, the Postal Service and the diplomatic community.

This gets me close to my thesis: We are not the "Party of No Compromise." We are the ultimate "Party of Compromise" in that there is no single issue in which Libertarians are unanimous. Every Libertarian has his own point-of-view on each issue, and every other Libertarian is forced to respect this differing viewpoint.

I would posit that there is only one point on which we Libertarians are agreed: Each of us leans as far towards the "A" endpoint as we can, on any given issue. That is, if a point on the spectrum al-

lows us to choose either direction, we opt towards, "government, stay out." Only when each of us, on a given issue, feels that there is value to government involvement, do we stop moving "A"-wise.

Now, here's the crux of the matter. Each of us respects the fact that another Libertarian may be at another point on this scale on any given issue: Respects! Allows! COMPROMISES!

We may wish that others were at the same point that we are, but we allow them their decision as long as they've tried to move in the "no-Government" direction.

A few examples:

Abortion. I, personally, believe in the right of a woman to maintain control over her body, i.e., pro-choice, even through the third trimester. Someone else may, for religious or moral reasons, consider abortion to be murder.

I will feel profound sadness for the Libertarian who believes our society is committing murder in her/his name and who wishes the government would ban abortions. At the same time, I will not change my point-of-view and will continue to opt/fight for pro-choice. The point is: I respect that person's right to be where he/she stands on this spectrum on this issue and expect her/him to respect mine.

Drugs. My point-of view: All recreational drugs should be made

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LPNews

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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party:

"To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

INSIDE LOOK

Bylaws Committee Update

By M Carling

The Bylaws Committee met in Las Vegas on Feb. 15 and adopted 34 recommendations (<http://www.lpconvention.org/downloads/BylawsCommitteeReportV2.pdf>) for our party bylaws and convention rules (http://www.lp.org/archives/LP_Bylaws_and_Convention_Rules_20060702.pdf). Many of these are clean-ups and technical corrections to fix errors introduced by hasty consideration at past conventions. Others are designed to protect us against hostile takeover by those who disagree with our principles, help us in the transition from debating society to political party, or help ensure that delegates to future conventions have more time to read, consider, and debate proposals likely to come before them. If all of our recommendations were to be adopted, our bylaws would then look like what can be found at http://www.lp.org/archives/LP_Bylaws_and_Convention_Rules_20060702.pdf.

Several recommendations regarding

our platform or the Platform Committee are jointly recommended by both the Bylaws and Platform committees. These proposals will be submitted by both committees jointly to the delegates.

One of the joint proposals includes a modification to our Statement of Principles. Contrary to apparent intent, the original drafters of our bylaws left a backdoor circumventing the requirement of a 7/8 vote to amend our Statement of Principles by means of a series of three consecutive 2/3 votes. In speaking with various Party leaders, we found that many are unwilling to close the backdoor until the most controversial clauses have been deleted, while other Party leaders are unwilling to consider any changes unless the backdoor is closed and padlocked. Therefore the Bylaws and Platform committees jointly propose to Suspend the Rules to wrap it all up in a single vote without any possibility of the proposal being highjacked to make other changes to our Statement of Principles. The first vote, to Suspend

See **Bylaws** on Page 4

LPStuff.com Offers Wide Variety of Quality Libertarian Merchandise

By Webb Garlinghouse

Libertarians are entering this election cycle with some wonderful advantages not enjoyed in prior years. More voters than ever are acquainted with the Libertarian Party; more people realize they share Libertarian values and we have a wonderful slate of candidates for president.

Many Libertarians believe it is important to show our friends and associates we are serious about our Libertarian positions. After all, other party members subtly - and sometimes not so subtly - announce their convictions every day. At LPStuff.com, the store dedicated to Libertarians, there is a wonderful assortment of quality merchandise to tell the world we are proudly Libertarian. Beyond being a fantastic resource for high-quality Libertarian apparel, purchasing products from LPStuff.com fills another need of the Libertarian Party - it insures we share a unified look so others will begin to recognize Libertarians in their many manifestations. Recognition is absolutely imperative to Libertarians right now. With a unified collection of brochures and educational materials, we can drive the message home that we are a coordinated, serious, professional group ready to put this country back on the right track. In short; we mean business.

As we continue to build our party, there

is another reason it is important to project a common image; it helps all of us when we want to approach someone about a topic of interest or when they just see us on the street. Having a professional, quality look helps eradicate some of those not-so-flattering preconceived notions outsiders have of Libertarians. A quality look helps us communicate our message without the prejudices.

Quality has another beneficial effect: When others see quality in the Libertarian clothing we wear; when they associate quality with the brochures we distribute; when they find quality in everything we do, they will be more receptive to find quality in the messages we articulate. Libertarians everywhere long for the quality of life associated with living in a Libertarian world. We need to use quality to help others realize there is a solid, reputable truth in our message.

As a service to Libertarians everywhere, LPStuff.com offers a way for each of us to post our past shopping experience. It helps those who are new to LPStuff.com to learn about the experiences other shoppers have had. If you have purchased anything, please leave some feedback. Good or bad, it all helps other Libertarians when considering a purchase.

Webb Garlinghouse is the owner of LPStuff.com.

More Speakers for LP NatCon

By BetteRose Ryan

National Public Radio, who has had a tendency in the past of ignoring our conventions, has called not once but several times. In fact, the local station interviewed the convention volunteers while they were working on setting up the staging for the convention. The interest in the story comes from the expense of the democratic convention (hundreds of millions) and the much lesser cost of the libertarian convention (tens of thousands) and exactly where the money comes from - the public, in some form, verses the delegates themselves. The interviewer collected over three hours of material just covering the volunteer work session. He also interviewed Mr. Shane Cory, the LP's National Executive Director.

The special events offered this year have proven to be so successful that the early nights at the hotel are all sold out. There are still plenty of rooms over the convention nights, May 22 to May 26, although they are going fast. If you are coming early and plan to do some of the special events, don't forget to sign up for the Mint Tour or the White Water Rafting at lpcon2008@aol.com. This is especially important for the White Water Rafting since the transportation to the site is being arranged in advance.

The Congressional Aide package, the package which gives the non-delegate a chance to hear breakout sessions speakers instead of receiving delegate materials, has proven to be a big hit with many convention attendees. This package is more in demand than the Vice Presidential package and almost as popular as the Junior Congressman package. One of the things which makes this package so inviting is that now, even people who are not chosen to be delegates, can benefit from all the fun of the convention without buying things they don't need.

One of the greatest benefits of coming to the convention has always been the great speakers. This year we have a great line-up of speakers which include old friends and new. David Nolan, Neal Boortz and Michael Cloud are familiar faces. Reggie Rivers, David Harsanyi, Desiree Hickson and Earl Allen are new faces to most convention attendees. The speaker list continues to grow as the convention draws near. Here are some new and old faces:

See **Speaker** on Page 8

Libertarian activist Paul Jacob will be speaking at the 2008 NatCon.

PAT DIXON FOR LNC



www.PatDixon.org/Inc.html

Bylaws Update

Continued from page 3

the Rules, requires a 2/3 vote. If it passes, there would be 15 minutes of debate without amendments, followed by a vote to make the proposed changes including amending our Bylaws to close and padlock the backdoor.

Of particular interest is a proposal that would change the meaning of Libertarian Party membership. Now, anyone who signs the pledge/certification is a member, whether or not we have any current contact information. Statistically, thousands of our members are deceased, but we don't know about it. A small subset of our members are donors to the Party. Delegates to our national conventions are often neither members nor donors. Our proposal would define members as those who donate to the Party and restrict voting membership i.e. eligibility to be a delegate or hold party office to those who have both signed the pledge/certification and donated to the party. Looking at it another way, we now require signing the pledge/certification to carry a membership card but not to

serve as a national convention delegate or as a member of the Platform Committee. We propose to reverse that, so that one would need to sign the pledge/certification to be a national convention delegate or serve on the Platform Committee, but not to carry a membership card. We expect this change to help protect our principles and to result in a modest increase in donations.

Bylaws Committee members are: M Carling (NY), Seth Cohn (NH), Dan Karlan (NJ), Rob Latham (UT), Frank Manske (CA), Rob Oates (ID), Heather Scott (TN), Aaron Starr (CA), Blay Tarnoff (NY) and Alfredo Torrejon (OR).

The Bylaws Committee will meet again in Denver on Thursday, May 22, at 9:00 PM in advance of the national convention. If you find any errors or unintended consequences, please let us know as soon before we meet as possible by leaving a comment to the appropriate proposal at <http://lpbylaws.blogspot.com> with your name and state. We appreciate any help toward improving our bylaws and convention rules.

A Brief Chat With Travis Nicks, Chair of the LPCO

By Andrew Davis

The following is an interview conducted with Travis Nicks, the state chairman of the Libertarian Party of Colorado.

How is the Colorado LP doing?

We are doing awesome. We have gained 21 percent in the past three years and are on a steadily increasing trend. We have fostered and nurtured some very favorable media relationships. Those relationships are allowing us to get more information out to the public. We have also been trying to work closer with the state legislators. Through our Legislative Director we can make timely policy positions on the most recent legislative proposals and rally the troops to either support, testify, or oppose some of the nearly 500 bills each session. This has led to several victories.

What are some of the recent events/activism you've had going on?

We have been pretty busy preparing for our own convention (held March 8) and for the National Convention. We have also elected a new Legislative Director and Media Director, and those handoffs went beautifully. We have some outstanding candidates such as Jim Frye, District 42, and Matin Buchanan, Congressional District 1. The various counties, such as Delta (fighting corrupt county commissioners), Boulder (running three commissioner candidates), Jefferson (repealing a grocery tax), Larimer (hosted our State Convention), and Arapahoe (supporting Jim Frye and Ken Wyble for State House), have all been doing great things on the local level.

How are you preparing for the National Convention?

Well, we have been filling our delegation (and then some) and trying to help with volunteers. Also, we are still trying to get a moving billboard for downtown to get some extra publicity. We are also running a media blitz of

Root: Bold on Cutting Government and Taxes!

Root pledges to use the "Impoundment Strategy" as the cornerstone of his campaign to cut government back to Constitutional levels.

Root proposes the "Impoundment" of all funds appropriated by Congress for un-Constitutional Agencies and projects. Using a little known power of the Executive Branch called "Impoundment" Root points out that Congress cannot force the President to violate his oath of office and spend for un-Constitutional purposes.

Root's proposal is based on solid legal precedents set by Jefferson and others.



Wayne Allyn Root
Libertarian Candidate for President

Root proposes assessing states as Federal government's sole source of revenue.

Root's "clean slate" strategy would eliminate all Federal taxes including the income tax. Root would then assess the states on a per capita basis to provide the much reduced revenue necessary to operate only the Constitutionally required functions of the Federal Government. States would then determine their own methods of raising their share of the revenue.

Wayne Allyn Root has proven he can get Americans excited about the Libertarian message. He has already garnered national media attention and endorsements from leading LP activists, nationally top rated talk show host and others.

Wayne's campaign continues to gain momentum but he still needs your support. Please go to Denver and cast your ballot for our next Libertarian Presidential Candidate, Wayne Allyn Root. If you plan to go to Denver as a delegate please contact us and we'll send you more information about Root events in Denver.

Check out www.RootforAmerica.com for all of Wayne's positions, endorsements, and media exposure.

RootForAmerica.com

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all our contacts to raise attention about the event. There is a small buzz right now but I feel it will get much stronger as we get closer. Especially if our presidential candidates keep getting major press. Also, Colorado is going to propose a resolution regarding the Statement of Principles and we have finalized that and sent it out so please take a look and give us feedback.

What do you recommend that convention-goers check out while in Denver?

The convention is being held downtown so the 16th street mall (an outdoor walking mall the length of downtown) is an absolute must. There is a taxpayer funded "free" shuttle if you don't wish to walk. There are many restaurants to choose from as well. The mountains offer some of the most stunning views in the world (in my opinion). There are loads of trails and sights at Rocky Mountain National Park and Pikes Peak. Each is about an hour from Denver. We have some world class golfing, but

that can get expensive. And let us not forget the Colorado Rockies (too bad the Broncos aren't playing).

Any other things you'd like to add?

Just that the Libertarian Party of Colorado is honored and excited to host the 2008 Libertarian Party National Convention in Denver. We look forward to seeing all of our out of state friends and showing everyone why we love Colorado.

Reelect LNC Chair

RedpathForChair.com

Bill Redpath



Paid for by Redpath for Chair © 2008

- Almost a quarter century member
- Almost a decade on the LNC
- Ballot Access Champion for twelve years and four presidential elections
- Four-time candidate for public office
- Renewed focus, with a Political Director back on the LNC staff, working on candidate recruitment and ballot access as a core party function
- Top fifteen all-time financial contributor to the LP
- Always a responsible spokesman for the LP

Thanks, and see you in Denver! - Bill

LIBERTARIAN NATIONAL CONVENTION 2008

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A La Carte items sold with Package purchase only.



AN ACTION PACKED WEEKEND NOT TO BE MISSED

AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS**Alabama****LPA State Convention**

The Libertarian Party of Alabama (LPA) conducted a two-day convention over the weekend at the Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex in Birmingham. Saturday was primarily geared towards people outside of the party. Our first speaker was Republican State Rep. Cam Ward, who has introduced a House Resolution regarding REAL-ID for the LPA, as well as a ballot access bill that reduces the signature requirement from 3 percent to 1 percent. The ballot access bill passed through committee with a unanimous vote last week. The REAL-ID Resolution was copied directly from the resolution passed by the Libertarian Party of Alabama Executive Committee in Oct. 2007.

The event was promoted on the LPA Web site, through e-mail to LPA members, through direct mail pieces to Ron Paul supporters, e-mail to Barr supporters, a press release from the LPA and one from the Bob Barr 2008 Presidential Exploratory Committee. State Chair Stephen Gordon spent an hour in-studio on the dominant drive-home Birmingham talk radio program the day prior to the event. Barr was also a guest on the same program.

Other speakers were LPA Vice Chair, who spoke about state and national efforts to kill REAL-ID, and Stuart Carter, who spoke about the popular Free The Hops legislation in Alabama. Successful Alabama political blogger Dan Roberts spoke about utilizing the Internet for political purposes. Former Alabama Ron Paul Field Director and National Ron Paul Home Schooling Coordinator Shana Kluck spoke about a new national organization called United Liberty that she and others are in the process of getting off the ground. Madison City Councilman Tim Cowles spoke for a few minutes about how to be an effective elected Libertarian. He said that he was “deeply honored” to be speaking immediately before Bob Barr.

Former Congressman Bob Barr was the final speaker. His talk was picked up by the Birmingham News, which is the dominant newspaper in the state. This is the first time in Gordon’s recollection that the Birmingham News has considered any Libertarian presidential contender newsworthy in

quite some time. Gordon served as the Master of Ceremonies during the Day One events and introduced each of the speakers.

Day-Two was focused more in internal party issues. The day started with a panel discussion led by independent election reform activist Bobby Friedman and former LPA Chair Mark Bodenhause. Surrogates spoke for presidential nomination hopefuls George Phillies and Christine Smith. Dan Allen Hankins, who owns the only microbrewery in Alabama, spoke about homebrewing laws and unique licensing requirements for microbreweries.

During the business meeting, a final delegate list to the national convention was developed. The following incumbent party officers were re-elected: Gordon as Chair, Mike Rster as Vice Chair, Sarah Wires as Secretary and Gordon Maddox as Treasurer. Former state Chair Stephen Dow and Birmingham activist Jim Albea were elected to at-large positions. Kluck, who hadn’t been involved in politics prior to the Ron Paul campaign, now serves as the Tuscaloosa District Representative. There were no motions pertaining to bylaws issues introduced or other business discussed.

Videos submitted by the Steve Kubby and Wayne Allyn Root campaigns were shown using a large video screen and amplified sound system. Michael Jingoian, as well as the aforementioned candidates, provided campaign materials which were placed on a table near the event registration table. The only materials actually distributed directly to attendees were from Barr’s exploratory committee and Bill Redpath’s campaign to chair the LNC. There was no presidential straw poll conducted, as Gordon had obviously stacked the deck by inviting known Barr and Paul supporters to the event.

“While not yet back to the level of participation we had during the years the Libertarian Party of Alabama had ballot access, I’m pleased at the increased level of participation at this convention,” said Gordon. “The amount of new faces, notably those from the Ron Paul movement, was especially encouraging. That some of these people are now identifying with and working with the Libertarian Party is indeed a good sign.”

Participation varied throughout the event, with generally around 25 people on hand at any given time. A few convention attendees only showed to listen to certain speakers and weren’t present throughout

the entire convention. Additional chairs had to be set up along the wall towards the end of Day-One activities. Roughly one-third of the attendees had never attended a Libertarian Party convention before.

Arizona**Newspaper Created**

The Arizona Libertarian Party has produced a newspaper for the current election cycle, and is in the process of mailing it to a large number of Arizona Libertarian households. The newspaper may be viewed online at <http://azlp.org/pub/>.

In order to facilitate candidate recruitment and ease the process of getting on the ballot, the Arizona Libertarian Party has published a detailed guide to running for office as a Libertarian in Arizona. Everything from listing partisan offices, critical dates, filing requirements, links to forms, directions to completing them and much more is available at <http://azlp.org/act/>.

Colorado**Celebrated Patriot Passes**

The Libertarian Party of Colorado mourns the loss of a patriot and leader in the new American freedom movement. Michael Corbin, host of the radio show, “A Closer Look” on 1360 AM in Johnstown, CO, passed away on March 18, from a stroke. His family was with him. Michael believed that every person should question the assumption that they are getting the “facts” and the “truth” from the major media outlets of television, radio and newspapers.

He had a vision of reviving, in some small way, the by-gone days when reporters did “on the ground” investigations that often took months, even years, in order to write the news. In addition to his radio show, he created the “Michael Corbin Coalition,” which met once a month to discuss what average Americans can do to restore our eroding Constitutional Republic and protect our national sovereignty. An insightful critic of not only the Bush Administration, but also of our many elected representatives who continue to ignore their oath to support our Constitution, Michael informed and educated his listeners as our human and civil rights have been and continue to be violated by our own government.

The Libertarian Party of Colorado knew and respected Michael as a powerful voice for freedom. He will be dearly missed.

Donations may be made to the ‘Michael Corbin Memorial Account’ at any 1st Bank.

Florida**Vice Chair on the Radio**

Kim Hawk, Vice Chairman of the LP of Lee County, Florida, was one of the guest speakers on the April 15 Tax Day program presented by the southwest Florida radio station WGCU. Grover Norquist, of Americans For Tax Reform, was also a guest speaker. The audio is available at <http://wgcu.com/gulf-coastlive/>.

Illinois**Petition Drives Shifts Into High Gear**

The race is on as Libertarians have only until June 23 to get our candidates for President, Vice President, and Senate on Illinois ballots. Volunteers have started gathering the 42,000 required signatures, but additional help is needed fast if we are to achieve ballot status in Illinois.

Anyone who is at least 18, a U.S. Citizen and has not collected signatures for other parties in this election cycle can petition in Illinois. Petition forms and comprehensive instructions are available on the Illinois Web site, LPillinois.org.

Those who cannot collect signatures are encouraged to donate to the drive, so contractors can be paid to help achieve this goal. Donations can be sent to: Libertarian Party of Illinois, P.O. Box 1605, Chicago, IL 60690-1605 or made securely online.

Plentiful information about the petition drive, including the volunteer prize contest, is available on the Illinois Web site. Individuals can also call toll-free 800-735-1776 for more information. Together, Libertarians can achieve ballot status in Illinois and provide voters with a better alternative to the one-party system.

Iowa**LPIA State Convention**

LPIA held our state Convention on Saturday March 15, 2008 in Johnston, Iowa. A few changes were made to our

Executive Committee (LPIA’s governing body); Nick Weltha was elected as Vice Chair while continuing service as Deputy Chair Advocacy and Public Policy, Karen Tegtmeyer was elected to the LPIA “ExCom” as an At Large representative and Nick Taiber elected as Congressional District 1 ExCom Representative. A straw poll of LP Presidential contenders gave the win to Michael Jingoian, with George Phillies in second. The LPIA Convention took place before Mary Ruwart, Mike Gravel and Bob Barr made their announcements and were not on the straw poll ballot.

LPIA Chair, Ed Wright, and Ex-Com Member Jake Porter attended the “Heartland LP Convention” in Kansas City April 4-5, and were encouraged by a good turnout of Missouri and Kansas Libertarians. Both the LPMO and LPKS worked hard and delivered a very well organized and worthwhile event featuring excellent LP Candidate forums and interesting presentations by numerous speakers! LPIA is conducting a membership drive and petitioning for LP Presidential/VP ballot access.

Kentucky**New Meetup Groups Started**

We have a number of endorsed and supported candidates in Kentucky. For a list of candidates, please visit <http://www.lpsy.org/>. We are currently still open to considering candidates for US Congress in KY-1, KY-2, KY-4, and KY-5, as these races are the only ones still available to enter and be on the ballot.

We are working on ballot drives now for our candidates. We are looking for both financial and volunteer support for this process. Please contact LPKY State Chair Ken Moellman via the contact page on the aforementioned LPKY Web site.

Additionally, we have started two new Meetups in Kentucky. Greater Louisville has had a Meetup for some time, driven by the Indiana party just across the river. But now we have created Meetup groups for Greater Lexington and Northern Kentucky as well. Meetups are places where libertarians can get some business completed, talk about current issues and generally socialize with like-minded individuals.

To join one of these Meetup groups, visit <http://www.meetup.com/> and search for “libertarian” in

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AFFILIATE NEWS AND EVENTS

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your zip code. We are also looking for volunteers to coordinate additional Meetup groups in other parts of the state. Please contact State Chair Ken Moellman to coordinate these potential Meetups through the LPKY.

Maryland

State Runs Large Slate

The Maryland Libertarian Party nominated seven candidates for the eight available races for US House of Representatives at its Spring convention held on March 1. The candidates are (1st Congressional District) Dr. Richard Davis, (2nd) Lorenzo Gaztanaga, (3rd) Sebastian Sassi, (4th) Thibeaux Lincecum, (5th) Darlene Nicholas, (7th) Ronald Owens-Bey and (8th) Ben Parker. This is believed to be the most candidates for federal office in a single election ever run by the MDLP. More information on our candidates is available at <http://www.md.lp.org/candidates>.

Massachusetts

Petitioning Begins

LPMass, the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts, has started its petitioning to put US Senate candidate Robert J. Underwood and our slate of Presidential Electors on the ballot. The stand-ins for the Presidential slate, to be replaced by the actual nominees when they are chosen, are George Phillies and Chris Bennett.

The Pioneer Valley Libertarian Association meets the second Wednesday of each month, weather permitting, at 6:30 PM at the Hu Ke Lau restaurant in Chicopee. RSVP to Carolyn McMahon at jmcmahon@verizon.net.

Lowell Area Liberty Association and Worcester County Libertarian Association Meetings for May are canceled as they conflict with National Convention.

Montana

Candidates Recruited

The Montana LP had several candidates file for office last month, including Stan Jones for Governor, Michael Baker for LT Governor, Donald Eisen-

menger for the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mike Fellows for U.S. House, Paul O'Leary House District 25 in Great Falls and Ronald S. Vandevender in House District 84.

Members of the Missoula Libertarians handed out one-million dollars bills on Tax Day. Everybody agreed that we spend way too much of OUR money said State Chair Mike Fellows, but still people will vote the incumbents back into office.

In a superintendent forum April 3 in Helena, Libertarian candidate Donald Eisenmenger of Helena said the "No Child Left Behind" law has not demonstrated it is achieving its goals of improving education in Montana or nationally. "I would encourage all Montana [congressional] representatives not to renew No Child Left Behind," he said. "It is seriously flawed. If it is renewed, I would encourage Montana to drop out. There could be some financial consequences."

Bitterroot Libertarians have been helping with a fight against county-wide zoning. In Darby Montana, members of the local planning board voted against implementing zoning and those members are fighting to keep their positions as if planning boards don't have the opportunity to say no to more government regulations and stream setback regulations. Property rights are the main issue in the Bitterroot Valley.

New York

LPNY State Convention

The LPNY is holding its 2008 State Convention in Queens at a site near LaGuardia Airport to accommodate the list of candidates seeking the LP nod in Denver this May. Mary Ruwart's husband, Ray Carr, is representing her campaign. Declared candidates Mike Jingoian, Mike Gravel, Alden Link and John Finan are scheduled to address the convention body seeking commitment from NY delegates to the May LP National Convention and detailing their positions. Additionally, former Congressman Bob Barr, who at press time had not officially declared, is scheduled to speak after lunch.

During the business session elections of officers, by-laws changes, and other business will be conducted. Vendor tables manned by the candidates and the chance to discuss concerns with them assures an exciting convention.

Ohio

LPO State Convention

The Libertarian Party of Ohio recently completed one of its most successful state conventions in years. Fundraising set records and attendance was 30 percent higher than the previous year: 75 attended. The LPO approved a complete new set of bylaws and constitution, based on Ohio Revised Code laws and guidelines. Also, LPO officers were elected, which included: Chair Kevin Knedler; Vice Chair Jeremiah Arn; Treasurer Michael Johnston; and Secretary Ann Leech.

Eight LP Presidential candidates attended the Saturday night dinner and Sunday morning forum. They helped greatly with the fundraising and the forum was very informative. Dr. Mary Ruwart won the straw poll, while Mike Gravel and Wayne Allyn Root finished in 2nd and 3rd.

Our next big initiative is to get our LP Presidential candidate on the ballot in Ohio. The state of Ohio requires 5,000 valid signatures, or the party name will not be listed. This is due by mid-August of 2008. We are also in discussion with the state of Ohio concerning a challenge that will allow for us to use a nominating convention to run candidates, instead of a required primary--Ohio is one of five states that requires primaries for all parties. We are also working with the state of Ohio to get a new law created that will allow for easier ballot access for alternative political parties.

Oregon

Straw Poll Finds Discontent

For the selection of Libertarian Party candidates, the Libertarian Party of Oregon will be having its statewide nominating convention in Salem, Oregon at the Rotary (Centennial) Pavilion, at Riverfront Park, on June 1, 2:00 PM.

Additionally, in a straw poll held over the weekend, attendees at the Collectors West Gun Show in Portland, Oregon resoundingly voted for "None of the Above" rather than casting votes for either the Republican or Democratic presidential choices.

The poll, conducted by the LPO, was open to all who attended. By the end of the event, with 685 responses, "None of the Above" placed first with 333 votes, fol-

lowed by Republican John McCain (262 votes), Democrat Barak Obama (69 votes) and Democrat Hillary Clinton (21). Many voters expressed deep frustration and dissatisfaction with the lack of choice in this year's election. Conservatives and liberals both commented that the two major parties were no longer representative of the voting public.

Respondents who voted "None of the Above" were asked "Who would you vote for, if you could choose your own candidate?" The responses from this question, also recorded over the course of the poll, included Republicans and Democrats (Ron Paul, Dennis Kucinich), independents (Ross Perot), historical (Presidents Reagan, Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt), and whimsical (Alfred E. Nuemann, Mickey Mouse, and A.L.F.).

Disappointment with the choices offered by the Democratic and Republican parties was not limited to those in the "None of the Above" crowd. Many who responded by selecting one of the national candidates spoke only in terms of keeping one of the other choices out of office.

"Talking to people today, it is really clear that they want something more than just 'Change,'" said LPO Vice Chair Joseph Cornwell. "They want different choices, candidates that actually represent them."

Texas

Convention, Candidates and Media From the LPTX

It's been two years since we met in Houston, and it won't be long before we are in Fort Worth! The Libertarian Party of Texas state convention will be held June 13-15 at the Radisson Fort Worth Fossil Creek (http://www.radisson.com/ftworthtx_north). You can contact the hotel and make your reservations now.

The speaker lineup is being put together and will be sure to catch your interest. We will invite the Libertarian Party's nominees for president and vice president to give you an opportunity to meet them.

We also have a three-way contested race for the nomination of our US Senate candidate. Your vote will determine the outcome. Thus far, the only announced candidate for an officer in the party is Pat Dixon, who is running for re-election as state chair. Elections for officers and state senate district representatives on

the state committee will occur at the convention.

Please keep checking www.LP-Texas.org for more information.

Did you know Libertarians are running for office in the May 10 election? Kevin Anderson is running uncontested for re-election to city council in Anna, Texas. He was elected to place 2 in 2006. Kevin Tunstall is running for election to city council in Missouri City, Texas. In his last try for this office he lost by less than 100 votes. His Web site is elect.kdtunstall.com/. Steve Kirby is running for city council in Abilene, place 4. Pat Dixon is running for election on the Lago Vista city council, place 4. His Web site is www.PatDixon.org.

Pat Dixon's interview of candidate Mary Ruwart is now online at video.google.com/videoplay?docid=7528664493651280305.

Presidential candidate Wayne Allyn Root (rootforamerica.com) was in Austin on Saturday, May 3, from 12 noon to 2 PM at the County Line "On the Hill" BBQ. This location is 6500 Bee Caves (not the 2222 location). The entrance fee was \$25 and included a BBQ lunch.

The Libertarian Party National Convention (www.lpconvention.org) will be held from May 22-26 in Denver. That comes before the Libertarian Party of Texas state convention, which by state law has to be held on the second Saturday in June (June 14, 2008).

Normally the delegates from Texas to the national convention would be selected at the state convention. But since the national convention comes first, the party's by-laws require that the delegates shall be chosen by an open meeting of the State Executive Committee (SLECT).

SLECT met on Saturday, Feb. 2, to approve a list of over 40 delegates. Others that wish to be delegates may contact the state party at Director@LPTexas.org or 512-442-4910. SLECT may have a follow up vote to add delegates prior to the Denver convention.

As many items of interesting and important business occur at these conventions, most in attendance desire to be credentialed as delegates so that they can participate and cast votes. Texas typically has a large allotment of seats for delegates and has not

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Guest Commentary: No Compromise?

Continued from page 2

legal. Prices will go down, reducing the need for a criminal act to pay for them. Smuggling would end. Drug lords, dealers and organized crime would be replaced by [companies like] Merck, which would pay taxes and ensure quality control in preference to lawsuits. Finally, two-thirds of the most harmless of the prison population would be released, without an illegal drug industry for them to return to. Would a higher rate of addicts overdose? Yes. Would more people turn to drugs? Yes. I believe that people have the right to make stupid decisions for themselves; even kill themselves.

I know would-be Libertarians who are against the legalization of any recreational drug whatsoever. I know others who favor legalization of marijuana, but not other drugs. I know others who, like me, favor legalization of all drugs. I respect them all. I respect their position. I will use some of them to the degree that we are together and fight some of them where/when we disagree.

To return to where I started. We are indeed the Party of Compromise. We have a common goal: minimizing government interference in our lives, but compromise on the many points on which we differ. As individuals, we may not compromise. As a Party, we compromise up the kazoo.

Delightful.

More Speakers Added for Denver National Convention

Continued from page 3

Paul Jacob is a Senior Advisor at the Sam Adams Alliance. An acclaimed multi-media commentator, Paul hosts an online, radio, and print opinion program, "Common Sense," which reaches a growing list of over 15,000 e-mail subscribers and is aired daily by more than 150 stations in 48 states. His work has also been featured in *USA Today*, *The New York Daily News*, *Roll Call*, *The Washington Times*, and *The Chicago Tribune*. He has appeared on Fox News, CNN's "Inside Politics," NBC's "Today Show" and ABC's "Nightline."

Tony Ryan is a board member of Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (www.leap.cc) and a 36-year veteran of the Denver Police Department. He has spent much of his free time speaking to civic groups on the evils of the Drug War. His commentary has appeared in papers in Denver and Sioux Falls (his home now) and many can be found at the LEAP website.

Guy Smith is the Author of Gun Facts – Debunking Gun Control Myths, he is also the CEO of Silicon Strategies Marketing (SiliconStrat.com). He led an LP "brand awareness" survey in the San Francisco area to guide local activists on how to increase libertarian election wins and policy victories. Guy is "writer, songwriter, and political provocateur" whose OP/EDs frequently appear in Bay Area newspapers (GuySmith.org). In Denver he will talk about the LP brand as well as gun owner's rights.

Adam Guillelte has been featured in the New York Times, National Review magazine and the Alan Colmes radio show. He serves as the State Director for Americans for Prosperity, the nation's premier grassroots organization.

The Leadership Institute will be offering great training for those who have chosen a breakout sessions package. Known throughout the country as one of the top campaign training schools, LI will be bringing five hours of some of their best training to Denver.

Michael Flynn is Director of Government Affairs for the Reason Foundation, a nonpartisan think tank whose mission is to advance a free society by developing, applying, and promoting libertarian principles, including individual liberty, free markets, and the rule of law.

Sharon Harris has been President of the Advocates for Self-Government since Oct. of 1995. The Advocates for Self-Government is a nonprofit libertarian educational organization founded in 1985. Sharon was one of the three finalists for the National LP's "Thomas Paine Award for Outstanding Libertarian Communicator" – selected by members of the party and presented at the 2000 National

Convention.

Dr. Walter Block is an author, editor, and co-editor of many books which include *Defending the Un-defendable*; *Lexicon of Economic Thought*, *Economic Freedom of the World 1975-1995*; *Rent Control: Myths and Realities*; *Discrimination*, *Affirmative Action*, and *Equal Opportunity*; *Theology*, *Third World Development* and *Economic Justice*; *Man, Economy, and Liberty: Essays in Honor of Murray N. Rothbard*; *Religion*, *Economics*, and *Social Thought*; and *Economic Freedom: Toward a Theory of Measurement*.

These are just a few on the dozens of speakers convention goers will have a chance to hear. Others include Councilman Doug Anderson, Trustee Joe Johnson, Dr. Gary Michael, Jessica Peak-Corry, Judge Susan Bell, former Mayor Willy Star Marshal, Martha DeForest, Ruth Bennett, Dr Steven Frye and others.

Bob Barr will no longer be the keynote speaker. He has opened an exploratory committee in his possible bid for the nomination of presidential candidate. Because this is considered a conflict, he has stepped aside. In his place, the LNC has chosen Richard Viguerie to be the keynote speaker.

Viguerie is no stranger to libertarian politics and LP events. He was received with much enthusiasm at the 2007 LSLA conference where he spoke to Libertarians from

across the country. Additionally, Viguerie has been active in supporting the presidential efforts of Ron Paul, and created the Web site UltimateRonPaul.com to help spread Paul's message and raise funds for his campaign.

Viguerie has raised billions for limited-government organizations throughout the years by pioneering and refining targeted mail advertisements. Because of his work and ingenuity in this field, he has been dubbed the "Father of Fund-raising."

In 2000, the magazine *Campaigns and Elections* (now, *Politics*) asked Viguerie what his plans were for the future. Viguerie responded: "To use the Internet to involve Americans in the political process, to help conservatives gain an advantage over the left. To fight against government's use of power, to fight for individual rights and responsibilities, and to fight to extend the blessings of liberty throughout the world."

Currently, Viguerie is working on the American Freedom Agenda, which he helped found with Bob Barr, Bruce Fein and John Whitehead. The AFA is a coalition founded to fight against civil liberties violations and other power abuses by the executive branch of the U.S. government. LP presidential candidates Steve Kubby and George Phillies have both publicly endorsed or signed the AFA pledge.

'08 Platform Up for Debate at National Convention

Continued from page 1

mental changes in the direction of more liberty.

Our 2006 national convention delegates decided that change was needed. At average convention pace it could take 15-20 years to rework each of the 62 large planks in the 2004 platform. So instead the delegates mass-deleted most of the platform, and our current platform is just the random leftovers.

Unique situations call for unique approaches. In early preference polling among Platform Committee members, there was significant support for taking a different approach to the platform this year.

But large-scale change to the platform can only happen if the convention delegates are determined to make it happen. It only takes a majority vote to

delete platform planks, but it takes a 2/3rds vote to adopt new plank recommendations.

In January, many of you responded to a questionnaire I sent out asking your opinion about what should be done with the platform. The results (published in Feb. *LP News* and available at: www.lp.org/platformresults.pdf) indicated a strong preference for something different - deleting the remaining content of the current platform and replacing it with something that is more positive, more relevant to voters, is shorter, includes fewer implementation details, and unites libertarians by speaking about topics that reflect internal agreement.

Given the 2/3rds vote requirement for plank adoption, and considering how much language the delegates would need

to debate and approve to build a replacement platform, we choose to work with language that past conventions had already vetted.

In Feb., the Committee met and adopted recommendations that the convention delegates: 1) delete the current platform planks and section introduction text, leaving only the Preamble and the Statement of Principles, and; 2) adopt a series of shorter replacement planks constructed with the best "recycled" language we could copy directly from previous platforms.

Many of you then responded to a second questionnaire I sent out asking what you thought of the platform changes recommended by the Committee. The results (available at www.lp.org/platformrecommendation.pdf) indicated that the committee had succeeded in

creating a product that, though not perfect, could achieve the broad support levels needed at convention to rebuild our platform.

Though it is language that has been approved by past conventions, it would be a style change from our current platform. The planks are more succinct, and content is generally limited to stating broad principles without excessive commentary or implementation detail.

Adoption of the Committee recommendations would fill critical topic coverage gaps, would make it easier for our candidates to set the tone for their own campaigns, and would welcome more libertarians to the party.

The Committee has recommended a platform in the style and length chosen by our party founders. The original Libertar-

ian Party platform in 1972 contained 27 planks with a length of around 2,500 words. The Committee's recommendations would result in a platform with (coincidentally) 27 planks and around 2,300 words. By comparison, the 2004 platform had 62 planks and 14,000 words.

To see the platform recommended by the Platform Committee, visit: www.lpconvention.org/downloads/platform_committee_recommendations.pdf.

I particularly encourage those of you who are national convention delegates to become familiar with the Committee recommendations before you are asked to vote on them on the convention floor.

Thanks to the thousands of you who have contributed to this process, and I look forward to seeing you all in Denver!

Affiliate News From Around the Country

Continued from page 7

filled its delegation at previous conventions.

Virginia

LPVA State Convention and Outreach

The Libertarian Party of Virginia held its 2008 state convention in Richmond on March 29. The convention featured a forum for both presidential and U.S. Senate candidates. Presidential candidates Wayne Allyn Root and Mary Ruwart participated in the convention. In addition, Arin Sime, Don Tabor and Bill Wood described the “lessons learned” from their recent campaigns for public office.

Jeff Bowles of Fincastle was elected chairman; he served as vice chairman during the 2006-2008 term. Mr. Bowles, a former elected chairman of the Mountain Castles soil & water conservation district in Southwest Virginia, stated that “I want to make the party more visible on the issues that affect Virginians. We need to take public stands on issues in the media, so voters see us as the one voice for their personal and economic freedoms.” He also described his goal of con-

vincing more Libertarians to follow his lead and run for local offices, where they can win races and put their small government principles into practice. He said this would build the image of the LPVA as a winning party and would create experienced candidates for higher office.

Bill Redpath of Leesburg (and national LP chairman) was nominated to serve as the U.S. Senate candidate this year. Mr. Redpath, the LPVA’s candidate for governor in 2001, emphasized the issues of free trade, a non-interventionist foreign policy, elimination of corporate welfare, and allowing people to opt out of the Social Security system.

In other news, the LPVA and its local affiliates conducted several major outreach activities during April. On April 16, the LPVA sponsored a booth at the annual “Shad Planking” event in Wakefield. This event draws large crowds, major politicians, and media attention from throughout the Commonwealth. Several reporters visited the booth to discuss LPVA activities and candidates. The outreach effort, organized by LPVA vice chair Jim Lark, was assisted by Jeff Bowles, Donna Grebas, Roy Scherer, and Jon and Sue Walker.

The Jefferson Area Libertarians held their eleventh annual Tax Day

rally/protest on April 15 at the main post office in Charlottesville. The Libertarian Party of Botetourt County and the Roanoke Valley Libertarian Party conducted a similar event in Roanoke.

Washington

New Facilities Planned at Headquarters

The Washington State Libertarian party has much to report this year.

We are celebrating the second year in our Lake City Headquarters in Seattle. We now have three high-speed work stations and free Wi-Fi for activists to come and volunteer, or just hang out. We are also still working on turning part of the HQ into the “Liberty Lounge,” though there will be more to come on that later. Since the national party stopped issuing funds to the state parties (ending central planning, go figure), we have started a monthly donor program and have funded all our operations out of this using the libertarian-owned ‘Donor Town Square’ service.

Pierce County, here in Washington, is one of the first states in America to be using Ranked-Choice Voting (IRV) for partisan

races. Statewide we are dealing with a double edged sword called the ‘Top Two Primary’. Which allows ANYONE to run as a member of a political party. The pros are that you simply have to sign up and pay the filing fee to run for office. The cons are that ANYONE can run and claim to be Libertarian and after the primary, the two candidates that get the most votes are the only ones that move on to the general election. So Seattle may very well have two Democrats on the ballot and Spokane may very well have two Republicans on the general election ticket.

Wisconsin

LPWI State Convention

The LPWI held its annual convention in Madison on April 12. The agenda included a Presidential candidates forum, candidates running for public office in Wis., and speakers on the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) and the REAL ID act.

Ed Thompson, who won his race for Mayor of Tomah by a two to one margin, gave a rousing speech on how he won his election spending only \$20 by simply listening and responding to the needs of the residents of Tomah.

Although some of the Presidential candidates were at other state conventions held on the same weekend, representatives from campaigns, along with video presentations, provided information on six of the candidates, and gave attendees ample information which they can use as delegates at the upcoming National LP Convention.

Speaker Jeff Palsma, a dairy farmer who has refused to comply with Wisconsin’s requirements under NAIS, gave a very informative account of how NAIS does nothing to protect against Mad Cow Disease--it’s supposed reason for existence--and his own very difficult battle against Wisconsin’s regulations requiring RFID tagging of livestock.

Jarett Sanchez educated attendees on the Federal government’s push for the REAL ID act, and how the Feds are attempting to push the act through by making it a part of other government programs in the hope that state governments and the public won’t take notice.

The LPWI has taken on NAIS as one of its primary issues. Given the large number of dairy farmers in the state, NAIS will prove to have a major impact in Wisconsin. If you would like to help educate farmers and the general public on this issue, please contact LPWI Chair Dave Hendrickson at chair@lpwi.org.

“A new dawn for Liberty”



For National Chairman of the Libertarian Party of the United States

“It’s time to play offense.... and I mean play. If you haven’t been having fun advocating libertarianism... then you have been doing it wrong.”

www.ErnestHancock.org

Libertarian Party Still Aiming for 48-State Ballot Access in 2008

By Sean Haugh

Ballot access season for the Libertarian Party is moving into high gear. Our challenge is to get as much petitioning done before our national convention in Denver over Memorial Day weekend. Once we have a candidate, the green flag drops in several states which do not allow us to use a stand-in for President. We are working hard now in the states that do allow candidate substitution so we can hit the ground running in the next group of states.

We are still on track to be on at least 48 state ballots in the 2008 election. The good news is that two of our most difficult challenges, North Carolina and Nebraska, will almost certainly be completed by the time you are reading this issue of LP News. That brings us up to 31 states where the Libertarian Party has secured ballot status for the 2008 elections.

Our paid petitioners and volunteers have gathered enough signatures in both states, collecting over 103,000 total signatures in North Carolina alone. All that is left in North Carolina and Nebraska is to finish the bureaucracy required to turn the completed petitions in to the state elections authorities. Both of these efforts have taken over two years to complete, and are only made possible by the long term commitment of the excellent volunteers in each state.

Illinois has gotten off to a strong start for their statewide petition, having collected over 8,000 signatures in the first month. Under Illinois state law we only have 90 days from start to finish. Our goal is to submit at least 42,000 total signatures there. While 25,000 verified signatures are required to get our statewide slate there, Illinois is one state where other parties can challenge the validity of our petitions. They've done it to us before and we have to be prepared for another challenge this year. If there's one thing you can count on in these ballot access struggles, it's that the Republicans and Democrats will do anything they can to ensure they do not have competition on the ballot. We have to submit a batch of signatures that is so strong that we can discourage our opponents from challenging them, and survive the challenge if it comes.

Our strategy is to flood Illinois with all the professional petitioners we can hire now. Once we are well on our way to meeting

our goals there, then we can start sending these petitioners to other states. One advantage we have in Illinois is that anyone from anywhere can circulate a petition. Unfortunately many other states have laws which place greater restrictions on the process, most commonly by insisting that all petition circulators must be residents of that state.

This is the case in two states where we can be petitioning now, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. The situation in Pennsylvania is very similar to Illinois. There our target is to collect 40,000 total signatures to blow away the required number of 24,666 verifiable signatures, to deter anyone from challenging us there. Several local volunteers were blessed with a break in the spring rains on the day of the Pennsylvania primary, and the reports of their success in collecting signatures from voters at the polls are still coming in. We are also fortunate that some of our top professionals already live in Pennsylvania so we can use them there.

In Connecticut, we must to gather about 12,000 total signatures to make sure we meet the requirement of 7,500 valid signatures, just to get our Presidential ticket on the ballot. The Connecticut LP has also recruited an impressive slate of candidates, all of whom also have to conduct their separate petitioning for ballot access. That state even goes so far as to require petitioners there be registered voters in Connecticut. Although the deadlines in both Connecticut and Pennsylvania aren't until early Aug., it is critical we get as much done as possible in those states now. Otherwise we will find ourselves in a situation this summer where we have too few people available to get all the signatures we need across the country.

The next state where we can send in outside help is Massachusetts. There the requirement is 10,000 valid signatures by July 29, which will put our Presidential and US Senate candidates before the voters there. We can also start now in Kentucky, where state law demands we submit 5,000 verified signatures by Sept. 2.

The Virginia LP has traditionally taken care of themselves and their requirement of 10,000 valid signatures, and are well on their way to doing so again. This time they've added an extra challenge to place our national Chair, Bill Redpath, on the ballot for US Senate, which requires a separate 10,000 signa-

ture petition.

Once the national convention has given us our standard bearer, we can start petitioning in Alabama (5,000 valid signatures), Iowa (1,500), Maine (4,000), Minnesota (2,000), New Hampshire (3,000), New Jersey (800), New York (15,000), Rhode Island (1,000), South Dakota (8,389), Tennessee (25 – yes, only 25!), and Washington state (1,000).

If we can raise the money and the manpower, we can also put the two most problematic states, Oklahoma and West Virginia, back into our plans and reach for 50 state ballot access. Even before considering petitioning in these two states, our ballot access needs can cost as much as a quarter million dollars. Another \$100,000 minimum would be needed to include Oklahoma and West Virginia in

our plans.

There are many ways you can help us meet these ambitious goals. First, you can make a donation at <http://www.lp.org/members/contribute.shtml>. Every \$2 you donate allows us to buy one more signature. A contribution of \$300 would be enough to keep one of our top producing professionals

See **States** on Page 13



Mary Ruwart

Libertarian for President

Healing America...

Mary Ruwart exemplifies the *“heart and soul”* of the Libertarian Party, with the brains and skills to convey the timely message of Liberty to America.

As a research scientist and educator, business woman and community activist, Dr. Ruwart is uniquely qualified to represent the Libertarian Party.

When Mary speaks, people listen! Her quiet assertiveness and “velvet hammer” style of advocacy compel an audience to take note of no-compromise libertarian positions. She handles the tough questions with reason and an impressive arsenal of statistical ammunition.

We need a presidential candidate who will appeal to the Right and the Left, and offer understandable and convincing solutions to the “hot” issues of the day: ***Global Terrorism, the Economy, Healthcare and the Environment.***

Her long record of outstanding activism on behalf of the Party is unparalleled. She knows libertarianism so well, and her ability to communicate our principles is outstanding. - David Bergland

She explains how government solutions do not work and quite often aggravate the problems they seek to solve. - William P. McMillen

She never shies away from the most difficult issues, but her decades of study, research, and practice have made her one of the most persuasive advocates for liberty ever. - Less Antman

...pure libertarian. No apologies, excuses, or dodging the issues with Mary. She is the REAL DEAL! - Steve LaBianca

...Let it begin with you.

Get On Board for Denver!

1-888-412-9903

www.VoteMary2008.com



Paid for by the Mary Ruwart for President Committee



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- ★ Cancel Existing Plans to plant RFID chips into Driver's Licenses that store and transmit personal data.
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- ★ Stop prosecuting Victimless Crimes.
- ★ Abolish Corp Subsidies, Influence Peddling, the Buying of Elections and laws that benefit the Politicians over the People they swore to protect.
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Bold Fundraising Strategy

- Realistic plan to raise \$5 million and discourage contributions to the Dems and Reps.

Our Campaign is a Vehicle...

to fight against existing plans to:

- Embed RFID chips into licenses
- Ban public demonstrations
- Restrict the Internet and
- Limit Ballot Access *even further!*

Extensive Campaign Infrastructure

- Solid Organization including staff, office, volunteers, Cision PR database, Telosa campaign software, apparel, literature, position statements, photo and media library.
- Extensive multimedia and video production capabilities to help spread our message.
- Highly engaging website that rivals the leading Democrat & Republican Candidates.

National PR

Launching in March, '08. However, we have already appeared on:

- Newspaper Covers
- National Magazines
- TV (CNN, Aljazeera & others)

Our Goal

Capture 5-7% of the Popular Vote &
Win the Delegates from the State of Oregon

Innovative Marketing Plan

- 30 Unique PR Programs to begin launching in 2008 including Internet Videos and National College Bus Tour
- Strategy to take advantage of the extended campaign cycle, voter unrest, the Internet and the new media

Real Knowledge of Issues

- "Common sense" Libertarian Solutions to our nation's problems that cost little or nothing to implement.

Libertarian since 1980

- Live my life and run my business with Libertarian principles.
- Follower of Harry Browne

Helping Build the LP

- Produced Ballot Access Internet Documentary (States may use this, *at no cost*, for fundraising or gathering signatures.)
→ Contact us for information
- Positive spokesman for the Libertarian Party.

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Leadership ★ Experience ★ Courage

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Libertarians Nominate Duke Professor for N.C. Gubernatorial Race

By Brian Irving

Dr. Michael Munger was nominated as the Libertarian candidate for North Carolina Governor at the party's state convention in Burlington, NC. Dr. Munger is a professor and chair of the Duke University political science, economics, and public policy departments.

"We have planted the tree of liberty, now it's time to pick the fruit," Dr. Munger told the convention after the unanimous vote.

His campaign themes will be controlling municipal aggression against property, establishing a broad-based education vouchers system, ending corporate welfare, and imposing a moratorium on capital punishment.

"We're not the third party in North Carolina," Dr. Munger declared. "In many legislative districts we are the second party, since nearly half of the General Assembly seats are unopposed races."

The Libertarian Party is on the verge of collecting the nearly 70,000 signatures required by law in order to be recognized as a political party by the State Board of Elections.

Libertarians also nominated candidates for state and local officers. Mark McMains of Fuguy-Varina was nominated for Insurance Commissioner. Thomas Hill of Concord was

nominated for U.S. Congress District 8.

Libertarian candidates for the General Assembly are: Sean Haugh, House 30; Lawrence Hollar, House 96; Susan Hogarth, House 38; Barbara Howe, House 32; Brian Irving, Senate 17; Richard Evey, Senate 44, and; Stephanie Watson, Senate 16. Paul Elledge is the candidate for Guilford County Commissioner at-large.

Dr. Mary Ruwart of Texas, a candidate for the Libertarian presidential nomination, was the overwhelming choice of delegates in a non-binding straw poll. Several other presidential candidates attended the convention, including former Alaska Sen. Mike Gravel and former Georgia Rep. Bob Barr.

Libertarians amended their platform, adding a plank calling on the state to "refuse to implement any national identification program," like the Real ID. Additional new planks include a call for the repeal of all local sign ordinances as an infringement on free speech, a repeal of state regulations that prohibit the reuse of privately owned water on private property, and a call to stop fluoridation of public water supplies.

The convention filled several vacancies on the state executive committee, chose delegates to the Libertarian National Convention in Denver, May 22 to 26, and selected Presidential Electors.

LP Shooting for 48-State Ballot Access

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working another full day. Besides just paying for signatures, we also have to cover the travel and lodging expenses for these pros, as well as the overhead of printing petition forms and meeting the administrative requirements found in the law of every state.

If you live in one of these states listed above, we also need your help to volunteer to gather as many signatures as you can. Every signature you can gather saves us as much as \$2, which we can then use towards our ballot access needs in other states, or better yet, towards supporting our candidates and getting busy with the real work of electoral politics. If you

can gather 100 signatures, that is even more valuable than a \$200 contribution because we'll already have the signatures in hand. We have found that our volunteers give us the best quality signatures, which only makes sense considering how much our members and supporters care about seeing a Libertarian alternative on their own ballot in Nov.

If you can help, please feel free to email me at sean.haugh@lp.org or call me at 202-288-9853. I'll be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have about petitioning.

Thanks to your generous support, we will meet this challenge in 2008 just as we have in previous elections.

Ready to Renew Your Membership?

Renew through the mail:
Send a gift of \$25 or more to:
Libertarian Party
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW,
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20037

Please note "Renewal" on the memo line if paying by check.

To renew online:
Go to our web site at www.LP.org.
Click, "Member Center" at the top right and then click "Renew Your Membership."

You may also start a monthly pledge online by clicking on "Make a Donation" on the main page of LP.org then selecting the option to start a monthly pledge. Monthly pledgers automatically renew.

Renew over the phone:
Call the National Office at (202) 333-0008 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. eastern, Monday through Friday.

If calling after hours, feel free to leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as possible!

LP Presidential Candidates Respond to Questions in Their Own Words

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to mainstream media and tens of millions of mainstream voters. And I'm doing it in a way that is colorful, and entertaining.

My game plan is realistic. As your Presidential nominee in 2008, I will break all-time LP records with 2 to 4 million votes. In 2012 I will attract 8 to 12 million votes (Ross Perot territory). By 2016 and 2020, I will be a credible, viable, nationally recognized candidate with a realistic shot at the White House. Yes, I will certainly break the one million vote barrier, but why shoot so low? I want to get at least 2 to 5% of the vote in every state in 2008, so that the LP will automatically qualify for ballot access in 15 states or more. This is a worthy goal as it helps the LP and our local candidates in so many ways.

Daniel Imperato: I would accomplish the same results for the Libertarian Party as I have for 30 years in my business life. What most people don't know about me is that I have 20 years in political experience having been awarded honors and as a humanitarian. It is these skills that will propel me to focus my efforts and energy and resources to win in 2008 and bring the Libertarian Party to White House. I intend to personally fund the remaining ballot access drives because without them we cannot win. I expect to break 1 million vote mark as well as several other barriers that the political establishment has created against third parties. 2008 is the perfect time and I have lined up the people and power to make this the most successful third party run ever. While not an official member of your party until 2007, I come from Boston a town with a libertarian tradition. I was brought up to respect our civil liberties, and to fight to maintain them just as my Roman ancestors did to initiate a free republic over 2,000 years ago. I am unconditionally the most qualified candidate to do battle with the established parties and expect nothing less than an independent voter rebellion to select our ballot line in the November election.

Michael Jingoian: Our primary objective is to receive 5-7% of the popular vote and win the states of Oregon and Alaska. Over the past 3 years, the Jingoian for President Team has built a solid organization capable of achieving this goal.

The American people are eager for change. People desperately wish to vote for legitimate candidates outside our corrupt two party system. Unfortunately, most voters are only familiar with the Democrats and Republicans which offer no alternative to our destructive status quo. Furthermore, many people are eager to serve government, but not "sell out" as a Democrat or Republican. By creating this crack in the damn, we will attract more legitimate Libertarian candidates for all positions in government.

We also have a viable plan to raise \$15-30 million. We have two very experienced fundraisers on our team and plan to target Independents, the Armenian population (of which I'm quite popular), the Mason community (of which I'm one), the entertainment community (I've personally thrown two parties at the Grammy Awards) and small business owners (we have the contact information from 1.5 million small business owners with email addressees and phone numbers.)

In addition, we have 20 unique marketing programs being completed, including engaging and entertaining YouTube videos, demonstrations (we've already been invited to a march on the National Mall in July), TV appearances, celebrity endorsements and a national college bus tour. We will publish this list at the national convention.

Finally, the Jingoian Campaign focuses on issues that ALL Independents have in common. This, combined with superior marketing, is why we're able to attract droves of Independents to our campaign. With so many people volunteering and requesting information, we have only now been able to respond to these requests.

Mike Gravel: Become president. There is an outside chance that I could become the first Libertarian President in the history of the nation. I have learned long ago that anything is possible in politics—particularly in this election year.

Obviously, with what I hope to accomplish as the Libertarian standard bearer I would more than break the million vote barrier even if I were to fail in securing the presidency. Modest goals result in modest successes. When reaching for the top one may not always succeed, but if you don't try, for sure, you won't succeed.

I have been conditioned, since, in my life I have succeeded beyond what could be reasonably expected, both in my career and with the causes I have championed. I have also failed. Both experiences have matured me.

Steve Kubby: As our party's presidential nominee, I hope to offer the American people an attractive and convincing alternative to decades of Republican and Democratic misrule. The job of Libertarian presidential candidate is to persuasively advocate for FREEDOM as the central American political value, and to position the Libertarian Party as the only reliable guardian of that value.

Alden Link: To break the million vote barrier, the Libertarian Party's presidential nominee must have, or be able to raise, the money to run a 50-state campaign and must take positions on key issues to reach constituencies that feel alienated by the two main political parties. I am an aviator, entrepreneur, real estate developer, inventor and small business owner, who served in the United States Army and who would like to spread the message of liberty to as many people as possible during the upcoming campaign. As the Libertarian Party's presidential nominee, I am prepared to commit considerable resources to this endeavor. If you like who I am and my positions on the issues, please use your token to give me an opportunity to address the LP Convention. If you would like to help and plan to attend the LP National Convention in Denver, Colorado, contact Dr. Tom Stevens, my Campaign Manager, at 718-357-7075. Your support would be much appreciated.

As for what I would like to accomplish as the LP's presidential nominee, I would like to coherently explain to the public how the Libertarian Party can offer practical solutions to the complex problems we face today. For example, we can work to end our reliance on foreign oil and improve the quality of our environment by getting the government out of the business of subsidizing, taxing and regulating some energy resources at the expense of others. In a competitive environment, nuclear power plants with passive safety features could be built in 3-6 years by entrepreneurs in the private

sector. In another area, I would explain to the public how the war on drugs is counterproductive and erodes our civil liberties, why the P.A.T.R.I.O.T. Act must be repealed for the same reason and how the government uses fear and the war effort to increase its power and control over the lives of ordinary citizens. We must defend ourselves against direct threats to our liberty whether those threats come from aboard or from our own government.

We must shrink the size of government by cutting back on the amount of taxes it collects and the amount of money it can borrow. All property taxes need to be eliminated so the government no longer has a permanent claim against the land and home you own. The death tax and capital gains tax represent double taxation and should be repealed.

All illegal immigration into the United States must end. Worker Visas should be offered to all undocumented aliens who are currently employed. Out of compassion, automatic citizenship should be granted to all illegal aliens age 70 or older who have resided in this country for more than five years.

Space Exploration Day, celebrated on July 20th of every year, commemorates Neil Armstrong's setting foot on the moon in 1969. Very little progress has been made since then because of N.A.S.A.'s virtual monopoly of the space industry and the government's regulation of independent entrepreneurial efforts that would have flourished in a freer market atmosphere.

Gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered individuals are entitled to full equality under the law regardless of their sexual orientations or perceived gender identity or presentation. The military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy must be ended so our gay and lesbian service men and women can serve their country openly and proudly. All state governments and localities should get out of the business of granting marriage licenses in order to allow people to enter into contractual relationships to order their lives as they see fit, but so long as the government continues to grant marriage licenses to heterosexual couples, gay couples are entitled to the "equal protection" of the laws and should be allowed to obtain government issued marriage licenses as well. All religious institutions should

retain the right to perform marriage ceremonies in accordance with their church doctrine without governmental interference. Stonewall Libertarians played a large part in helping me to understand G.L.B.T. issues and helped me write my gay rights plank. I urge you to support their efforts by visiting their website at <http://www.stonewalllibertarians.org>

George Phillis: I'm going to use my Presidential campaign to build a stronger Libertarian political movement. That's the one thing our Presidential campaign can do. I'm going to do it as well as possible with available resources. We have incredible opportunities this year, if we invest to take advantage of them. Will we? That's your choice.

Let's be realistic. America has three hundred million people. Almost none of them will ever meet our Presidential candidate. The thrilling stump speech and attractive face that win local elections won't work in Presidential politics. When we're shut out by the main stream media, the way Mike Badnarik was, Americans won't hear our candidate's voice.

There is only one path to an effective Presidential campaign. That's a campaign that does the things winners do to win elections. Volunteer mobilization. Electronic outreach. Cost-effective advertising. Fundraising. We may not do these things on the same scale as the Obama campaign, but we do make them happen.

A strong campaign doesn't happen overnight. It doesn't happen overnight if you are Senator Obama raising 50 million dollars a month, and it for sure doesn't happen overnight on a Libertarian budget. That's why I launched my campaign two years ago.

To misquote the milk ad, I've Got Campaign! I have a strong core staff, state coordinators for half the states, press releases going close to daily to 16,000+ targeted press outlets, electronic outreach for electronic social groups, and Google Adwords/Facebook and radio campaign that are up and running. If I am given our nomination, I don't have to improvise. I'm ready to go. I have \$100,000, in the bank, to launch my general election campaign. If I am our nominee, all I have to do is to tell my campaign staff to step on the accelerator.

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Less visible, but just as important, my Presidential campaign represents a late-chance opportunity to restore Libertarian donor confidence. I'll do that by visibly spending my campaign's money on real politics. Why can you trust me with your money? I've put my own money where my mouth is. I'm investing \$100,000 of my own money in my nominating campaign, with a second \$100,000 ready to go if I get the nomination.

Having said all this, I control what I do, not what you do as volunteers, donors, or voters. We ought to be in an incredibly good position this year. Huge numbers of voters can't stand any of the D or R candidates. If we want to take advantage of our opportunities, we all need to -- if you'll forgive the Phillies reference -- step up to the plate. There really is a chance to break a million votes, but only if you all commit vigorously to our Libertarian national campaign.

Mary Ruwart: We run a Libertarian Presidential Campaign to support our state and local candidates and expose Americans to the libertarian philosophy. A candidate that excels in doing so could very well go far beyond the million vote barrier. One of my prime recruitment targets will be Ron Paul supporters. I have supported Dr. Paul as either a donor or an activist in his congressional races since 1988 and his recent presidential campaign. In turn, he has supported me, both with an endorsement for Healing Our World, and a letter to President Bush recommending me for the position as FDA Commissioner, so that I could do a de facto privatization of that agency.

Dr. Paul's indirect "seal of approval" will help me convince his supporters to vote for our state and local candidates, since so few "Ron Paul Republicans" will be on the ballot in November. If Congressman Paul fails to win the Republican nomination, I will appeal to his supporters to vote for me on the Libertarian ticket, instead of writing in their votes for Dr. Paul. I'll point out to them that since write-in votes won't be counted, this strategy will be more successful in registering their protest, and will bring in hundreds, may thousands of new voters to the LP.

Because most of the thousand

or so meet-up groups have at least one LP member, I have a great deal of name recognition in the meet-up groups. In Denver, you'll be able to meet the young people who have joined the LP because of my campaign. They are attending the Convention to help out as campaign volunteers or committed delegates. Ron Paul supporters are some of the most dedicated activists I know, and will make a real difference to the LP.

This election will offer a special recruiting opportunity for us in the largest single sector of all: the female vote. Women want to vote for women so badly that one libertarian woman has told me that she will hold her nose and vote for Hilary if we don't run a woman at the top of the ticket. While I would not make such a choice, many women will. If Hilary gets the nomination, we can offer an attractive alternative. If Obama gets the nomination, we have a good chance of getting the votes of disappointed female voters who had planned on voting for a woman this election.

Christine Smith: I will accomplish outreach to millions of Americans with the message of liberty, sharing how libertarian principles applied to real world political and social issues will improve everyone's life. I will focus on the most important issues of the day: foreign policy and the economy. We have a wonderful opportunity in 2008: the American people are ready for radical change. No longer are the majority content with 2-party politics as usual. I will hold high the banner of liberty - boldly taking our message and solutions to all Americans. I'm not going to make a prediction to vote totals, but I will say this: I believe that I, more than any other candidate seeking the LP nomination, will reach the greatest number of Americans, and that will certainly be reflected on election day. I will reach women, minorities, young people, those struggling financially, as well as more men, as no other LP presidential candidate has done before. Because libertarian solutions will benefit all, I will go to all. We need a charismatic, articulate, strong, knowledgeable true libertarian as our 2008 LP Presidential candidate; I will be honored to serve the cause of liberty in this way.

Question 2: During your cam-

paign for the nomination, do you feel you have helped the party with its recent growth? If so, how?

WAR: I like to think that all the media interviews I've done have contributed to the LP's growth. I'm the new face and voice of freedom. Or as some in the media have dubbed me, "Ron Paul...on steroids!" The beauty of my candidacy is that I'm here to represent the LP for the long haul- a quarter of a century from now, I'll still be younger than Ron Paul is today! This is only the start of my 16 year campaign to win the White House for the LP.

DI: Yes I have with mailings across the country to top executives, more travel to Libertarian events last year then any other candidate along with several television, radio and internet streaming appearances. I have reached out to members of the other third parties in attempt to fuse our efforts and have gotten a good response from both the Greens and the Reformists. I encouraged the Draft Bloomberg team to run me as the VP and we added awareness and membership to the Libertarian Parties in every state.

MJ: In order to achieve our long term goals, we need an active Libertarian Party. Here are just a few ways that we've helped the LP grow:

1) Since our campaign reaches beyond the LP, I am often asked about our more controversial positions. By thoughtfully explaining the facts, I have been a very positive spokesperson and converted many people to our party. 2) We have donated substantial funds to State Parties and to the LP. 3) We have attracted more non-Libertarians to our campaign than, probably, all other campaigns combined. 4) We have had numerous people join the LP through our website. 5) Our website and online movies are very popular and promote the LP in a positive way. 6) And, when I speak in public, people unrelated to our campaign come to listen. In fact, I am now recognized at airports and shopping malls.

MG: I have induced a number of people to join the Libertarian party for the obvious reason that I want them to be delegates and vote for my candidacy.

Additionally, since March 25th I have done a great deal of speak-

ing and media interviews in the course of my national campaign and I have not missed an opportunity to point out that the Libertarian party is closer to the ideals of the American people than are the Democratic and Republican parties. I then follow up with extensive reasoning to prove it.

SK: It's impossible to say exactly how successful I've been in using my campaign to grow the party, but I do know that I've made the attempt, and I've personally spoken with new members who have joined the party at my urging. My campaign web site has had a prominent "support the LP" link of one kind or another on it from day one. My speeches, especially the ones delivered to non-party audiences, mention the party's web site or 1-800 number. So does my campaign literature. I've made a habit of asking people to support not just my campaign, but the party as well.

AL: I do believe I have helped the party with its recent growth. Many of my supporters have joined the Libertarian Party because I was running for its presidential nomination. In addition, I have had many articles printed regarding my candidacy and positions on issues (<http://www.link-for-pres.org/>). I have also promoted the Libertarian Party in all of my public appearances and have addressed many local and state LP organizations and conventions. In each such appearance, I encouraged non-LP members to join the party.

GP: For example, my Google Adwords and Facebook campaigns have generated 27 million impressions with messages including For real change Vote Libertarian. Get Uncle Sam out of your bedroom and out of your walletand Continue the Revolution Support a genuine Libertarian. End the war; save our freedoms followed by links to my ChooseGeorge.Org web site.

MR: Even though my campaign has been short, I have helped the Party grow already. Over and over, I hear comments such as "I'm returning to the LP after being inactive for years, simply because I want you to get the nomination"; "I'm going to Denver so I can vote for you"; "I had lost faith in the LP, but you've inspired me to keep at it"; "Only you can unite the Party, so I'll do

anything I can to help you."

My book, Healing Our World, has been instrumental in bringing women and liberals into the LP since its publication in 1992. I can't go to a convention without someone coming up to me, usually a woman, to tell me that Healing convinced her to become a libertarian. Usually a spouse or relative pipes up, "I tried for years to help her see the light, but I couldn't do it. Only your book could." I feel that I can present our message in a way that is attractive to the largest niche market in the country---the female vote!

CS: Absolutely! My campaign has received more media coverage than any other candidate seeking the LP nomination; I have appeared on numerous AM-Radio talk shows nationwide reaching millions of Americans (many of the shows were on 50,000-watt AM stations reached 20-38 states themselves each time). When I saw the increase in membership by end of last year, I knew it was in large part due to the many times I had shared the LP and the LP website on national and large-city radio shows throughout 2007. My campaign has also been in receipt of letters from life-long Democrats and Republicans who let us know they changed party affiliation, now becoming a Libertarian, due to finding and being inspired by my campaign.

Question 3: In the event that you do not win the presidential nomination, will you assist the presidential nominee and other Libertarian candidates around the nation? If so, how?

WAR: Of course I will help anyone that asks me. I will speak whenever, wherever possible not only for LP Presidential candidates, but for local LP candidates across the country. I will be a dynamic voice for "America's Third Party." I will continue to represent the LP on national TV, just as I have for these past months. The goal is to elect LP candidates at every level of government from water commissioner, school board, and town council on up. And of course to gain ballot access nationally. Then I'll be back in 2012!

DI: Without a doubt I will con-

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tinue to support the Libertarian nominees. I am a man of honor, true to my word and full of energy. When I commit to win there is no pause. I charge hard, take no excuses, work fast and diligently. I hope to earn the nomination and choose Bob Barr as my vice president.

MJ: As an active Libertarian, I will continue to support all Libertarian candidates whom I believe will represent our party with honor and integrity. The Jingoizian Campaign provides support to Libertarian candidates in these critical areas:

1) Fundraising Assistance (we held a break-out session at the LP-State Chairs Conference in Las Vegas) 2) Marketing and Website Development (including messaging, design and political cartoons) 3) Press Releases (we can publish a press release to over 100,000 media outlets in minutes) 4) Ballot Access (we produced an Internet documentary about the unethical changes in ballot access laws and will customize the end of the movie for state parties to collect signatures and/or fundraise.)

MG: I will travel the nation lecturing on the National Initiative and promoting my books (which will pay the cost of my travel) Citizen Power, The King Makers, and A Political Odyssey. The publishers have hired PR firms to promote the books which will obviously create a great deal of media visibility. In the course of my travels which will not be a financial burden on the party or the candidates, I will make myself available to and back all Libertarian candidates who wish to capitalize on my presence in their community.

However, I would be less than candid if I did not point out that my value and visibility for the Libertarian party is considerably greater if I am the Libertarian party's standard bearer.

SK: Of course! How? In any way I can. I'll urge my own supporters to rally behind the party's nominee. I'll ask my campaign volunteers to assist the nominee's campaign in any way possible. I'll be happy to set up or host campaign events in my own area. I want the party to do well, whether I'm the nominee or not.

AL: If I fail to win the presiden-

tial nomination, I would be happy to assist and advise whoever the LP presidential nominee is, if that person seeks my help. Otherwise, I will work in my home state of New York to promote Libertarian candidates running for state, local and national office.

GP: To answer this question, look at our records. If you want to know what any of us will do in Fall 2008, ask what we did in Fall 2004. In 2004 I was Mike Badnarik's national volunteer coordinator. Those of us who worked for the Libertarian political movement in the past will likely be working for the Libertarian political movement in the future.

Beyond the campaign, we each have our own individual objectives for advancing our movement. We'd each like our fellow libertarians to help us. Of course, leading libertarians is a bit like herding butterflies. How do I herd butterflies? Why, I plant butterfly bushes (Buddleia, for fellow gardeners.)

So what have I done in years past? How will I lure the butterflies?

In years past, I led forming a libertarian Federal PAC, a libertarian State PAC, and a libertarian 527 organization. Those organizations all supported Libertarian Party candidates, not Republicans or Democrats. In Massachusetts, I organized the libertarian activist group Liberty for Massachusetts. I'm Chair of the Massachusetts LP. I wrote two books on our political tactics; they're both available free at <http://cmlc.org>. Until recently, I edited newsletters Let Freedom Ring and Libertarian Strategy Gazette

If not nominated, I'll do things to lure libertarians into libertarian activity. My newsletter Let Freedom Ring will again be published. The Libertarian Candidate Support disk will be updated. My PACs, whose activity was legally constrained, will resume activity. Some people talk about planning to lure Ron Paul supporters into our movement. I've collected names of well over a hundred thousand Paul supporters, and will pursue their allegiance for our campaign.

MR: I've assisted every presidential nominee since 1984 through donations, activism, and/or ghost writing for them. I will continue to lend my support in this elec-

tion for any principled Libertarian candidate.

CS: I will always focus on doing activities which I feel best promote liberty in this nation. Taking a look at the other current LP presidential candidates, no, I'm not going to be involved in such a campaign. I believe I am the superior candidate to be the spokesperson for the Libertarian Party in 2008, if I did not believe this I would not be running. If there were someone running that I believed would do a more effective job than what I know I can accomplish then I'd already be supporting them. But there is no such person. Thus, if I do not receive the LP nomination, I will focus all my energies into my writing, public speaking, and humanitarian work as I always have. I devote myself to being part of helping achieve greater liberty in this nation, and will give all my efforts to working for liberty not only through my writing, but by also joining with others (whom I've had the pleasure of meeting during this campaign) whom I believe are sincerely devoted to libertarian principle. Yes, I'm willing to assist other Libertarian candidates around the nation, but not just "Libertarian," I will assist any candidate (regardless of political party affiliation) or political cause/issue which is consistent with and adheres to the genuine libertarian principles I believe in.

Question 4: Given that the vice presidential nominee is selected independently, after the presidential nominee is named, do you intend to seek the vice presidential nomination in the event that you do not win your bid for the presidential nomination?

WAR: I'm a competitor. My personal philosophy is to shoot for the stars. I aim to win- and I've never settled. That could be why I've accomplished so many things the so-called "experts" and critics never thought possible. I became one of the youngest anchorpersons on American TV- with no prior experience in the field. I've taken my company public on Wall Street- against all odds. I've written 6 books- including a national best-seller. I've sold a TV series to Hollywood. And I haven't achieved any of this success with a lick of talent. I credit all my success to my tenacity. I

am relentless.

I never give up.

I may or not win the LP Presidential nomination, but no candidate will out work me, out hustle me, or out sacrifice me. I've given 110%...and then a little more. So, I haven't really given second place any thought. I plan on winning the LP nomination. No other thoughts will enter my mind. But win or lose, I'm your best asset to travel the country motivating and rallying LP voters- and especially younger voters to get excited about Libertarian ideals and principles. I have four young children and I'm more motivated to provide them with a future of freedom and possibility than anything I have ever done before. I'm doing this for them.

DI: Maybe, but only if the nominee is Bob Barr.

MJ: Over 80% of our efforts thus far have been spent building the infrastructure necessary to execute a serious national campaign. Just as you would not build a business to make one sale, it makes no sense to build a first class political organization to run one campaign. Therefore, we intend to seek the nomination again in 2012.

Given our experience in marketing, PR and fundraising, we sincerely believe that we can capture 5-7% of the popular vote and thrust the Libertarian Party onto the national stage. This campaign has also been an enormous learning experience, and - though it is progressing better than we had ever dreamed - there is much that we don't know about running for President. Since our goal is to build a campaign that can win the White House in 2012, we do admit that running alongside someone with national media recognition provides certain long-term benefits to our current campaign.

MG: No. I have no interest in the vice presidential position, however, I will continue to support the party and the presidential and vice presidential nominees the delegates select.

SK: As I just stated, I'll assist the presidential nominee in any way I can. If that means serving as the vice-presidential candidate, that's what I'll do. I'm sure that the delegates will let me know if they think that's what's called for.

AL: I would be honored to seek and accept the vice-presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party and I would work as hard on the campaign trail as if I had been the presidential nominee.

GP: It is our long tradition that our Vice Presidential candidates campaign for the nomination. Our party has regularly chosen the Vice Presidential candidate from the campaigners. This fine custom was honored in 2000 by Don Gorman, who turned down the Vice Presidential nomination that was his for the asking, when he called upon the delegates to vote for the declared candidates. That's the way we have done things in the past, and that's the way we should do it in the future.

I will not run, as is sometimes rumored, for our National Committee. We have several fine Vice Presidential candidates. I will support them until one of them is chosen as our nominee.

MR: I'm running for president and I expect to be the nominee. If, however, I do not prevail, I will enthusiastically support any principled Libertarian presidential nominee if he or she requests my help. If I feel serving as the VP nominee will benefit the LP, I may seek that office.

CS: No. I will not be the VP to any of the other candidates currently seeking the LP presidential nomination. My goal is advancing liberty: I think I would be able to much more effectively work for liberty through my own political activism (and joining with others who share the same goal) than sacrificing those months serving as a LP VP candidate. I am willing to serve as our LP Presidential candidate (which will provide the greatest platform to speak to Americans nationwide) and I will be highly effective, otherwise I feel my abilities will be more productive for liberty doing other political activism during those months.

Question 5: With the exception of one presidential cycle, the Libertarian Party has enjoyed significant growth during presidential election years. Are you confident that you can continue this trend if chosen as the presidential nominee? Do you believe it is reasonable goal

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LP Presidential Candidates Respond to Questions in Their Own Words

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for the LP to reach its all-time membership record as a result of your campaign efforts?

WAR: If we want people to buy our product, they first have to know we exist. A loud, booming, confident, dynamic, charismatic, colorful voice that attracts the attention of mainstream media and mainstream voters will get people to know that we are here. If you give me the honor of being our party's nominee, I will drive more prospects to our party's website than any previous campaign has accomplished. The resulting increased number of donors will build the foundation that allows us to run bigger and better campaigns in the future.

There's the perfect storm out there- and if we seize the moment we'll get unprecedented results. This could and should be the best year in the LP's history. We have the right message- now we just need the right messenger.

DI: There is no reason to assume we cannot earn the loyalty of the nearly 30 million voters who call themselves independent. That would put us on pace to exceed the number of Republicans and creep close the number of registered Democrats. This is a reasonable goal, and one the party should pursue at vigorous speed. My campaign gives us the perfect opportunity to cash in on the public's wariness of the established parties. I have created the right plans to accomplished phenomenal growth.

MJ: I am proud to be a Libertarian. I run my business with Libertarian values. (It's probably why my business is so successful and why I look so young!) However, I'm very disappointed with our track record. In recent polls, 70-80% of voters are disenchanted with our two party system. However, we fail to attract even 1% of the vote. This is why I decided to follow in the footsteps of my mentor Harry Brown and run for President as a Libertarian.

We intend to broadcast our message through traditional sources. However, in order to build our base of support, we will utilize the Internet. Just in the past two years, AngelVision has received over 45 prestigious awards for Internet Marketing and Advertising:

2007: Five Telly Awards for Best

Internet Online Commercials

2007: Five Blingy Awards for Excellence in Marketing

2007: Three Internet Advertising Awards

2007: Two Summit International Marketing Awards

2007: American Business Stevie Award for Best Interactive Media Company

2006: Two Telly Awards for Interactive Marketing

2006: InnoTech Innovation of the Year Award

2006: American Marketing Association, 1st Place for Excellence in Marketing

MG: Yes, and to far exceed it. Yes, more than significant, because of the controversy I raised within the Democratic party during my Senate tenure with some unusual accomplishments during the Vietnam war era, with issues that I fought for over the opposition of the Republican and Democratic leadership—issues which are very relevant today.

My presence in the initial debates during the recent democratic primaries has reintroduced me to the American public, after the absence of a generation from public life, as a political leader unafraid to take on the forces of Wall Street and the military industrial complex who control the American polity and that are destroying our democracy, our personal freedom and individual privacy.

As a result, I now enjoy a reputation of speaking truth to power and I am frequently complemented with: "you're a breath of fresh air." My Classic Liberal (Libertarian) beliefs are no different now than they were sixty years ago.

SK: I'm confident that I can make the Libertarian Party attractive to voters and that my campaign will result in lots of membership inquiries. How the party handles those inquiries and how well it does at turning them into real, lasting involvement with the party is a matter that goes beyond the scope of the presidential campaign. Remember, the last time the LP set membership records in 1994-2000, it did so with six years of high-volume direct mail recruitment and with a gimmick called "the P transaction" in which anyone who donated money to the presidential campaign had a magic wand passed over them and was declared a "member." And when those two

things stopped, membership collapsed. My job as a candidate is to draw positive attention to the party. The party itself has to close the deal.

AL: I am confident the Libertarian Party would experience significant growth if I was chosen as its presidential nominee and that it would reach its all-time membership record as a result of my campaign efforts. Fundraising and the political expertise of my Campaign Team would be the keys to my success. While I am in a position to personally finance a 50-state campaign, I intend to rely on my business contacts and supporters to raise the money needed to purchase radio and television ads in the major media markets. In addition, I believe that all the money in the world will not translate into success unless it is wisely spent. For expert political advice, I intend to rely on Dr. Tom Stevens, my Campaign Manager, who has years of political experience working on national, state and local campaigns, and on Michael W. Reid, Jr., Treasurer of the Committee to Elect Alden Link President, who has shown an amazing grasp of Federal Election Law and F.E.C. regulations.

GP: I want libertarians to become involved in the Libertarian political movement. I do that by motivating each of you to join a local group, help in a campaign, and run for office. My campaign gives practice in doing real politics. I'm giving all my volunteers the Libertarian Candidate Campaign disk, and a message: The campaign will end. The Libertarian political movement endures. Stay with us until victory.

Libertarians have many libertarian activities, membership clubs, and political groups they can join. If you want people to support you, you need to sell people that your group offers real benefits worth your price. That's how I sell my campaign, my state party, and my local groups. I'll be using my campaign to bring libertarian volunteers and donors out of the woodwork. I'll be campaigning with our other candidates to bring them earned media, media they can use for their own recruiting. I hope that Libertarian groups all across America take advantage of them to build a stronger Libertarian political movement.

MR: I have every reason to believe that I can grow the LP, since I already have (see my answer above). In addition to my affiliation with the Ron Paul supporters, I specialize in talking to groups that are poorly represented in the Party, such as women, blacks, liberals, environmentalists, health-conscious individuals, Christians and other spiritually oriented groups. My libertarian primer, Healing Our World, appeals to these groups in particular (see my web site at www.voteMary2008 for links to a free download).

CS: Yes.

Question 6: Do you feel that you would be able to attract significant media coverage as our nominee? What coverage has your campaign generated thus far?

WAR: As a first time LP Presidential candidate, I think that we've done exceptionally well in this regard. Specific proven accomplishments are far more credible than potential, promises or wishful thinking. I'm now a proven commodity. The quality of the reception given me by media heavyweights has been overwhelmingly positive. I've been asked back by nearly every show I've appeared on- including some of the biggest national TV and radio shows. I've had host after host say, "You're a Libertarian I could actually vote for. You are a breath of fresh air." I've been endorsed by mainstream media- including Mancow Muller, whose syndicated show reaches millions of Americans. I'm proving the LP message can appeal to mainstream media and voters.

DI: Yes I will attract media with money and with wisdom. I will host and sponsor some major television events. As the nominee I intend to stage a series of debates between us and the Constitution, Green, Socialist and Nader. We will hold these in DC and three other major media markets and attract coverage from the mainstream media that usually ignores the third parties.

MJ: I admit, I may not be as flamboyant as another candidate, but when the media wants to talk to a Libertarian running for President, they come to me. Although we have not made ANY outbound calls to the media, as a

legitimate candidate with a real track record and funding, we are regularly approached by the media and have been interviewed for film documentaries and have appeared on CNN, Aljazeera and several talk radio programs. My photo has appeared on the covers of several newspapers and I've been featured in many national magazines for my campaign. (See our website for copies and transcripts).

Most important, this is NOT a campaign for President. It is a vehicle to educate Americans about our unconscionable and deliberate loss of Freedoms by the establishment. Through clever Internet Ads, YouTube Videos, television interviews, radio appearances and commercials, we intend to educate the American People about these critical issues that threaten our liberties:

1) The National ID Card; 2) Unlawful Changes to Ballot Access Laws; 3) Restricting the Internet; 4) End of Habeas Corpus; 5) Banning of Public Demonstrations.

We believe this is the reason why the Jingoian Campaign has been so successful in gaining national attention and attracting voters from all political backgrounds.

MG: It has been reported on all the major and minor media of the nation. I have not met a person across the country who knows of me who does not know that I have left the Democratic party for the Libertarian party. Only one democratic official in the mid-west was sorry to see the party loose my voice. All others that I have met or have written to me have congratulated me on my decision to finally become an official Libertarian party member.

SK: A certain minimal level of coverage tends to come with the nomination. The question is whether or not I can parlay that into more and better coverage. I believe that I can. I've successfully done so in the past as an activist and as a gubernatorial candidate. I'm not going to lie to you -- my pre-nomination campaign hasn't exactly set the media universe on fire. The seed money just wasn't there to create a media wave out of nothing. Nonetheless, I did a reasonable amount of talk radio, a lot of Internet radio, some web and news-

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paper interviews, and several local television appearances, including a press conference at San Francisco’s city hall in which I was accorded equal stature with several prominent major party politicians. As our party’s nominee, I’ll do my damndest to give the media an interesting, ongoing story that they’ll want to feature prominently.

AL: Since I own two planes (one which I built myself), I would travel around the country flying into local airports and holding press conferences on the tarmac, which I believe would create considerable buzz, especially since I am a senior citizen. I made most of my money as a real estate developer and still run a small business manufacturing wheat grass juicers I invented and supplying them to national chains (<http://www.sundanceind.com>). As an aviator, entrepreneur and small-business owner, I believe I will make an attractive candidate. I draw that conclusion from the interest the media has shown in me to date. I have been profiled and shadowed by reporters eager to understand what they consider to be an interesting story regarding what motivates me to run for President. I am in a position to devote full-time to the upcoming campaign and I pledge to be on the campaign trail every day from now until the November election.

GP: Media? I’m already running radio ads. My internet ad campaign has had more than 27 million impressions. I already have newspaper endorsements. For a more extensive list of interviews, see <http://ChooseGeorge.Org>.

I anticipate that the 2008 election campaign will be a Democratic Party landslide. That makes for dull news coverage, meaning that a credible Libertarian candidate with sensible stands on the issues—that’s me—will be seen as providing interesting variety.

MR: Although my campaign is just a few weeks old as I write this, my campaign has already generated substantial publicity in the radio networks.

If you followed the Ron Paul campaign, however, you noticed that there was a media “gray out” right after his first money bomb and a “black out” around the time of the second or third primary.

Our message has been black-listed or Ron Paul would have stayed in the news.

No matter who we choose for a candidate, he or she will get a certain amount of media and probably not much more—regardless of pre-nomination publicity. Our media target should be the new “free press,” the Internet. This is how Ron Paul supporters were activated and networked. We should put our focus, not on getting more establishment media, but on taking over the Internet, where we have the geek “home advantage.”

CS: I think I will attract far more media coverage than any of the other LP presidential candidates because I’m passionate about my politics. I sincerely love communicating libertarian solutions clearly and boldly. My campaign has already generated greater media coverage than all of the other LP presidential candidates combined. Just visit www.LibertarianForPresident.com and view the media and video pages.

Question 7: Five years from now, what role do you see yourself having in the Libertarian Party?

WAR: I hope I will have earned the respect and trust of the LP members and delegates to represent them again as their presidential candidate. I hope to have gained us permanent ballot access in at least 15 states. I hope to have elected LP candidates at the local level over those 5 years. I hope to have raised record dollars for the LP. I’ve been the leading fundraiser at the LP’s “Liberty Decides” from the day it was created to now. I’ve encouraged my friends and supporters to give to the LP cause. I plan to continue to help us develop our party’s infrastructure and constituency base— not just for the next 5 years, but the next 16 years. By then I hope to be your first Libertarian President residing in the White House. We must capitalize on this breakout year by continuing the campaign at the grass roots level forever more. I hope you’ll be ROOTING FOR ROOT. Please visit my web site at www.ROOTforAmerica.com.

DI: Five years from will be my second term as president. I am ready willing and able to shrink government, defend the constitution and restore freedom to the

American Republic. I have been blessed to be in this position and appreciate the Libertarian Party platform of principles as being the guide for turning our country around.

MJ: For a long time, we have had a document on our website called “Our 5 Year Plan.” Without a roadmap, we’re just shooting in the dark; we are running campaigns that don’t accomplish very much year after year. This is why a realistic plan is vital to our long-term success.

After the election, we are not shutting down our campaign. We will continue to fight for Freedom and accountability in government. We are finishing two books, a film, a documentary, and spoof ads about our message. We are going to hold the new administration accountable every step of the way, and come 2012, the American people will remember our campaign. We also plan to continue to educate Americans about the urgent need to elect non-Democrats and non-Republicans to all positions in government in order to implement viable solutions while they still exist.

The greatest challenge we faced was not getting the attention of the media, it was finding experienced individuals to help with our campaign. The LP needs leaders who remain in the party to assist other worthy candidates. As a Libertarian, I am committed to helping my fellow candidates succeed in abolishing our destructive two party system.

We can no longer afford to run campaigns of the past. We need to a powerful, all-encompassing movement that utilizes all forms of marketing and attracts the youth of the Ron Paul Revolution. We have no doubt that with the Libertarian nomination; we will, once and for all, thrust the Libertarian Party on to the national stage.

Please visit www.ResetAmerica.com. The Revolution has Begun. Be a Part of it.

MG: If I am not the President, I will be writing and lecturing and promoting the National Initiative and the views of the Libertarian party for the rest of my life. I have no intention of ever retiring.

SK: I’ve spent most of my life fighting for freedom, and don’t expect that to change. For more

than a decade now, I’ve done so as a Libertarian Party activist, and I don’t expect that to change either. I don’t worry to much about what “role” I’ll have next week or next year -- there’s always plenty of work to be done, and I’m sure I’ll stay busy.

AL: As a candidate with experience running a national campaign, I would be eager to share my knowledge and help develop the next generation of leaders put forth by the Libertarian Party. I have no intention of seeking the presidential nomination in 2012 and would be content to participate in National and State Conventions of the Libertarian Party and to contribute to the success of the party in any way I can.

GP: I foresee a brilliant future for our Libertarian movement. Regardless of the fine details of tactics, there is still that shining city on the sunlit hill, the city to which we Libertarians still hold the secret key. The key? “Ask not what your government can do for you. For if you do, you will very soon instead be lamenting what they are doing to you. Ask instead what you voluntarily, freely, willingly, choose to do, for whoever you want.”

In five years, I will still be active in the Libertarian political movement. I will still be supporting our candidates and making it more likely that they win. In the century of the internet, the concept of a single national political membership group looks long in the tooth. I have faith in the political free market. Each of you will decide how to invest your own time and money.

No matter what each of you decide, I’ll be there working for our Libertarian future.

MR: The role I have five years from now will be determined by the delegates in Denver. We are at a crossroads. We can nominate a principled libertarian or we can opt for a “celebrity” candidate in return for the hope of a bit more publicity and a few more votes. All of our “celebrity” candidates are new to the Party and aren’t yet ready to embrace liberty completely. They will soft-sell our message—to the extent that they portray it at all.

For example, replacing the Income Tax with the national sales tax, mis-named the “Fair Tax,” is a very different message than Harry Browne’s “Eliminate the

Income Tax and replace it with nothing.” How will the American people know that libertarians believe that taxation is theft if our recommendation is to simply change how taxes are collected? I fear that if we take that road, the Party will have lost its soul. The flagship of the liberty movement will be gone and the remaining vehicles will flounder.

My focus, should that happen, would be on my libertarian research, speaking, and writing, hoping against hope to return the Party to its core values.

CS: The real question is not what role do I see myself having in the LP five years from now, but will there even be a Libertarian Party (as we know it) five years from now. We call ourselves “The Party of Principle,” and it is those principles I will always devote myself to - the principles that excited me when I read our former platform and which motivated me to join the LP. There is no reason for any of us who dedicate our lives to advancing liberty to be involved in the LP if it ceases to be “The Party of Principle.” I’m sure the LP will likely always go on as a political social club, but if it abandons its core principles for the perceived sake of political expediency, it will cease to be worthy of participation by those who sincerely wish to advance liberty in America. Such activists who sincerely devote themselves to advancing liberty aren’t content to be part of a mere social and debate club; true libertarians will use their talents and strengths through other ways in society to advance liberty. There will always be libertarians who work diligently in this nation, but unless something is done in Denver at the National LP Convention in May 2008, I’m not sure there will be many true libertarians supporting the LP for much longer (so many have left already). I’ve met many who tell me they feel the LP is leaving them...I say it’s time for all true libertarians who wish to see the LP remain “The Party of Principle” to make a stand for our political party now or else the LP will be libertarian in name only. So the key is to restore and save the LP right now, so that five years from now, together, we will be stronger in number, activism, and elected Libertarians and achievement of libertarian solutions in politics and society nationwide.



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Masquerade Party - Wednesday Night, May 21.
U. S. Mint Tour - Wednesday, May 21, and Thursday, May 22.
White Water Rafting - Wednesday, May 21, and Thursday, May 22.
An Evening with David Nolan - Thursday, May 22.
Visit Red Rocks Amphitheatre - Thursday, May 22.
Inside NASA with Richard Hoagland - Friday, May 23.
Rockies vs. Mets Baseball - Friday, May 23.
Downtown Denver Arts Festival - Friday-Monday
The Colfax Marathon - Sunday, May 18.
The Bolder Boulder 10K- Monday, May 26.

For more information, tickets or reservations,
please contact Greg at LPcon2008@aol.com.



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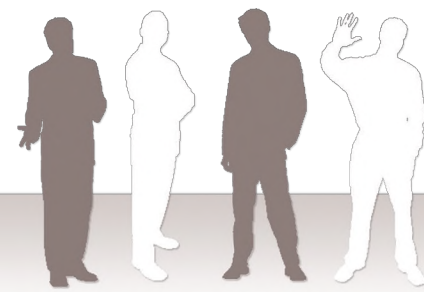


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Liberty' DECIDES '08



Liberty Decides '08 is a new program to promote our pre-nomination presidential candidates as they engage in a competitive process. To participate in the program, candidates must cross three thresholds: meet the LP bylaws requirements; file with the FEC; and raise at least \$5,000 for the LP or LP state parties for ballot access.

Libertarian Party Presidential Candidates - QUALIFIED for LD '08 (ranked in order by funds raised)

Wayne Allyn Root



- Hometown: Henderson, NV
- LD '08: **QUALIFIED**
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$15,764
- More Info: www.rootforamerica.com

Daniel Imperato



- Hometown: Palm Beach, FL
- LD '08: **QUALIFIED**
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$10,474
- More Info: www.imperato2008.com

Michael Jingoian



- Hometown: Sherwood, OR
- LD '08: **QUALIFIED**
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$8,490
- More Info: www.resetamerica.com

Libertarian Party Presidential Candidates - Not Yet Qualified for LD '08 (ranked in order by funds raised)

Christine Smith



- Hometown: Arvada, CO
- LD '08: Not Yet Qualified
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$2,460
- More Info: www.christinesmithforpresident.com

Steve Kubby



- Hometown: Ft. Bragg, CA
- LD '08: Not Yet Qualified
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$1,280
- More Info: www.kubby2008.com

Mary Ruwart



- Hometown: Burnet, TX
- LD '08: Not Yet Qualified
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$1,060
- More Info: www.votemary2008.com/

Mike Gravel



- Hometown: Arlington, VA
- LD '08: Not Yet Qualified
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$895
- More Info: www.gravel2008.us

Alden Link



- Hometown: Newburgh, NY
- LD '08: Not Yet Qualified
- Constitutionally: Yes
- FEC Filed: Yes
- LD '08 Total: \$885
- More Info: www.link-for-pres.org

Candidate Notices: Bob Jackson of Michigan terminated his campaign on April 7, endorsing Bob Barr. Also on April 7, Daniel Williams of Florida terminated his presidential campaign endorsing Bob Barr. Mr. Williams will be seeking the vice presidential nomination.

NOTE: The options of both "Future/Unannounced Candidate" and "None of the Above" have been offered to visitors of LP.org and have been listed on a Liberty Decides '08 direct mail piece. The option of "Future/Unannounced Candidate" has raised \$2,146. The option of "None of the Above" has raised \$4,327. Any candidate not listed on this page is either unannounced or they declined to participate in the Liberty Decides '08 program. For an alphabetical list of candidates go to, www.lp.org/libertydecides/alpha.html. Updated May 5, 2008.

Have you ever thought about running for public office?

Running for public office is easier than you think. It is always a great way to serve your community while promoting the Libertarian Party. To obtain information about local races, or for more information about how to launch your campaign, contact your state chairman, or email Libertarian Party Political Director Sean Haugh at Sean.haugh@lp.org.



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WHAT'S GOING ON IN
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HERE IS A
COMPREHENSIVE
LISTING OF UPCOMING
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FUTURE, IF THERE
IS AN EVENT WE
SHOULD BE LISTING,
PLEASE LET US KNOW
BY CONTACTING
OUR VOLUNTEER
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Interested persons should
send contact information
along with a resume to:
jobs@lp.org.

Event	Date	Location	Contact
Illinois Vote Libertarian Petition Drive	March 25 - June 23	Statewide, Illinois	Crystal Jurczynski VLI@LPillinois.org
LPNH Executive Council Meeting	Every 2nd Sunday @ 1:00 PM	180 Woodbury St. Manchester, NH	Chair@lpnh.org
California Statewide Primaries	Tuesday, June	Statewide, California	www.CA.LP.org
LPMI State Convention	June 7	Romulus, Michigan	www.mi.lp.org
Colorado Outreach Peoples Fair	June 7 & 8		Travis Nicks tnicks@gmail.com
LPTX State Convention	June 13-15	Fort Worth, TX	www.LPTexas.org
Colorado Outreach Vans Warped Tour	June 29		Travis Nicks tnicks@gmail.com

Email Your LP Affiliate Events to Austin.Petersen@LP.org

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARTY?

Each issue, we'll ask you a question, and the answer will be provided in the next issue of *LP News*.
Discussion on the question is welcome in "Letters to the Editor," space permitting.

What was the LP's first official slogan, and what
did it mean?

LAST ISSUE'S LP QUESTION:

How many platform planks did the LP platform have before
it was trimmed at the 2006 National Convention in Portland?

ANSWER:

The 2004 Libertarian Party Platform had 62 planks, totalling nearly 14,000 words.

Online Resources
for LP Members

Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party:

www.LP.org
Click on: Organization
Click on: State Parties
Click on: [Your state]

Find contact info for the
National Committee

www.LP.org
Click on: Organization
Click on: LNC Directory

Renew your membership

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New Member Information:
Call (800) ELECT-US
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LP Presidential Candidate FEC and Liberty Decides '08 Filings

Wayne Allyn Root

LD '08	\$15,764.00
Individual	\$29,988.00
Candidate	\$4,421.90

Daniel Imperato

LD '08	\$10,474.00
Individual	\$0.00
Candidate	\$0.00

Michael Jingoian

LD '08	\$8,490.00
Individual	\$13,090.79
Candidate	\$0.00

Mike Gravel*^

LD '08	\$895.00
Individual	\$447,378.97
Candidate	\$0.00

Steve Kubby**

LD '08	\$1,280.00
Total	\$2,951.22



Most Individual Contributions Raised: Root
Most Personal Money Contributed: Phillies

* Numbers reflect previous campaign for President in different political party
** No electronic report available. Only total available is net contributions that do not separate individual contributions and candidate contributions
*** No FEC report available
^ Candidate had failed to file April Quarterly Report by deadline

Alden Link

LD '08	\$885.00
Individual	\$259.00
Candidate	\$4,225.00

George Phillies

LD '08	n/a
Individual	\$16,727.75
Candidate	\$81,527.01

Mary Ruwart***

LD '08	\$1,060.00
Individual	n/a
Candidate	n/a

Christine Smith**

LD '08	\$2,460.00
Total	\$16,244.00

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

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